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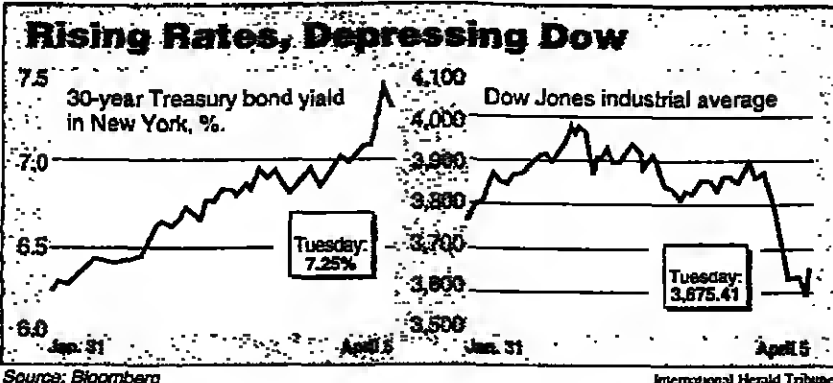
No. 34,555

Wall Street Bounces But Bear Still Lurks

By Lawrence Malkin

NEW YORK — Wall Street bounced back Tuesday in a sign of the volatility that traders said they expected to last for weeks if not longer. As it has in recent days, the frightened and fickle bond market set the tone. Within a half-hour of the New York Stock Exchange's opening bell, the Dow Jones industrial average had risen 54 points, more than erasing Monday's loss of almost 43 points. The surge Tuesday forced the imposition of computerized trading curbs, which work on the upside as well as the down, for

the second straight day. Advancing issues led decliners by an almost 7-to-1 ratio, the reverse of the situation during Monday's slide. The Dow hovered near that level for most of the rest of the day, and closed up 82.06 points at 3,675.41. Other indices also rose, especially the Nasdaq index, which gained 22.64 points, to 750.05. Fund managers were looking for bargains at the start of the quarter and snapped up everything from small stocks to blue-chips such as Caterpillar and J. P. Morgan to utilities, which have suffered from rising interest rates. The gains were a breather from the mar-



ket's 10 percent decline this year. Larry Wachtel, of Prudential Securities, said turn-arounds like Tuesday's "can sustain a bounce for a couple of days, but you never see a crack like that and then find yourself in a bull market. I think the free-fall is over, but not necessarily the correction." Interest rates on 30-year Treasury bonds. See MARKET, Page 5

Serb Forces Advance Into Bosnian Enclave

U.S. Efforts For Peace Near A Standstill

Troops Only 2 Miles From City of Gorazde

By Roger Cohen

PARIS — After six weeks of rapid progress that raised hopes for an overall Bosnian settlement, U.S. attempts to settle the Balkan conflict are floundering, beset by a worsening military situation on the ground and a diplomatic impasse over what territorial concessions are needed for peace. On the one hand, U.S. officials said, a Serbian offensive on the Muslim-held eastern Bosnian enclave of Gorazde and on Muslim civilians in northwestern Bosnia has posed the question of whether the Bosnian Serbs are seriously interested in a settlement. On the other, they said, the Muslim-led Bosnian government has been showing growing resistance to an American proposal that it should accept a peace settlement offering the recently formed Muslim-Croat federation 51

By Chuck Sudetic

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — Nationalist Serbian fighters poured through breached Bosnian Army defense lines around the UN-declared "safe area" of Gorazde Tuesday, setting fire to a dozen villages in their path and forcing more than a thousand Muslims to flee, United Nations officials here said. "The Serbs are going for it," said a UN official. "They are going to at least try to take over the eastern end of the pocket and push the Muslims over the river." The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, referred to the Drina River, which bisects the Gorazde pocket. "The Serbs moved ahead one kilometer north to the river," the official said. Another United Nations official said the Bosnian Serb forces had advanced northward to within two miles (three kilometers) of the city of Gorazde, which is jammed with refugees. In Washington, the chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff said Tuesday that the use of allied air power would not be appropriate to break the siege of Gorazde, Reuters reported. "I think the conditions were very different," said General John Shalikashvili, referring to Sarajevo, where the United States supported the threat of intervention with air power to force Serbian forces to pull back. "Those same conditions might once again come to pass in Gorazde, and then I'm sure NATO will re-evaluate its stance," he said.

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percent of the territory of Bosnia-Herzegovina, and is pressing for considerably more land. The Bosnian Serbs, after two years of war, control 72 percent of the territory and would thus have to reduce their share to 49 percent under this U.S. proposal, which has been agreed on with the British, French and German governments. "We're not prepared to go beyond 51 percent for the Muslims, which is the position we have agreed with the Europeans and that Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic had indicated last year would be acceptable," said one official close to the U.S. diplomatic efforts. "But the Muslims are now saying they want all ethnically cleansed land back, and there's just no way you can fit that into 51 percent." The combination of Serb brutality in Gorazde and Prijedor and the hardening position of Mr. Izetbegovic's government has brought the diplomatic efforts led by the U.S. special envoy, Charles Redman, to a virtual standstill, officials said. "Right now, we're treading water," said a second official. "There was enormous movement in recent weeks and a hope that the improvement in Sarajevo would have an ameliorating effect elsewhere. Those hopes are floundering. There are worrying troop movements on all sides and no sign of a turnaround across the board." Conflicting reports exist on the intensity of the Serbian attack on Gorazde, and U.S. officials believe accounts from Sarajevo radio are probably exaggerated. But whatever its true extent, the attack is clearly not compatible with an earnest Serbian desire for a settlement. Indeed, U.S. officials believe it looks more like a way to buy time — and a reflection of the divergent positions among Serbian leaders in both Serbia and Bosnia. These divergences appear to be increasingly marked. President Slobodan Milosevic of Serbia is eager to find a settlement because his priority is to ensure the lifting of crippling sanctions on the rump Yugoslav state. But the Serbian military commander in Bosnia, General Ratko Mladic, is opposed to the surrender of any captured land, and convinced that the goal of a "Greater Serbia" is best served by the prosecution of the war. "Mladic remains hard-core," said one official. "He's not budging from land where Serbian soldiers have sacrificed their lives." The latest Serbian offensive in Gorazde and the wave of killings and forced evictions of Muslims in Prijedor followed a shattering personal tragedy for General Mladic. His 23-year-old daughter, Ana, a fifth-year medical student

arrived in Gorazde, Mr. Janowski said, estimating that about 1,500 uprooted people had sought shelter in private homes, schools and other institutional buildings in Gorazde.

"Practically all the civilians south of the Drina bend have been displaced," he said, indicating that some Muslims fleeing villages south of the town of Gorazde had crossed the Drina River from the east bank, seeking shelter.

The Serbian offensive showed no signs of easing despite the fact that the senior UN military commander in Bosnia, Lieutenant General Michael Rose, was scheduled to visit Gorazde on Wednesday.

Serbian infantry and tank assaults late Tuesday were most bitter from the direction of Ustipalje, a Serb-held village north of Gorazde, Sarajevo radio said. Now, heavy Serbian artillery batteries began on front-line positions in the area about 4:30 P.M., it said.

Except for penetrations of Serb-held territory by Muslim commandos, Gorazde's 65,000 people have been cut off since last May from the central swath of Bosnia that is controlled by Bosnian Army forces.

Bosnian Army officers in Sarajevo said that the defenders of Gorazde were dangerously low on ammunition.

UN observers reported last week that one of the Serbs' objectives was to take over a weapons-assembly facility on the Drina's east bank inside the town.

The Serbs clearly covet Gorazde because it lies along the Drina as well as a main highway linking Serbia's capital, Belgrade, with the Serb-held towns farther upstream and the Croatian resort city of Dubrovnik.

Frustrated, Berlusconi Halts Talks With Alliance

By Alan Cowell

ROME — After a week of bickering within his triumphant, rightist electoral alliance, the media tycoon Silvio Berlusconi said late Tuesday he was suspending negotiations with his fractious partners aimed at welding together a government-in-waiting. It was not clear if the development meant that the rightist alliance had fallen apart completely. However, the announcement threw Italian politics into disarray and took much of the luster off an electoral landslide just one week ago that many cast as a herald of change. Mr. Berlusconi had believed he could bring

The Italian election marked a fundamental change to winner-takes-all politics. Page 2.

Milan's snappy business techniques to government. But he found himself in a collision with the more familiar logjams of political maneuvering and ill-disguised power plays. And his decision to suspend the negotiations raised the stakes to their highest levels yet.

"Enough of the duplicity and the old games of the old politics," Mr. Berlusconi declared. "From today we will not go to the League or to anyone else," he said in a reference to the separatist Northern League, whose rough-tongued leader, Umberto Bossi, issued his latest broadside against the media magnate Tuesday, calling him "Berluskaizer" and saying democracy would be jeopardized if the businessman fulfilled his ambition to become prime minister.

While there was a clear element of political maneuvering in Mr. Berlusconi's announcement, he said that, rather than pursue negotiations, he would wait until President Oscar Luigi Scalfaro decided whom to ask to form a government.

Under constitutional rules, Mr. Scalfaro cannot do that until the new parliament elected in the March 27-28 elections meets on April 15 to elect the speakers of its upper and lower houses. If that process failed to produce a government, Mr. Berlusconi said, "we have no fear of going back to the electorate," apparently raising the possibility of new elections to pressure his allies back into line.

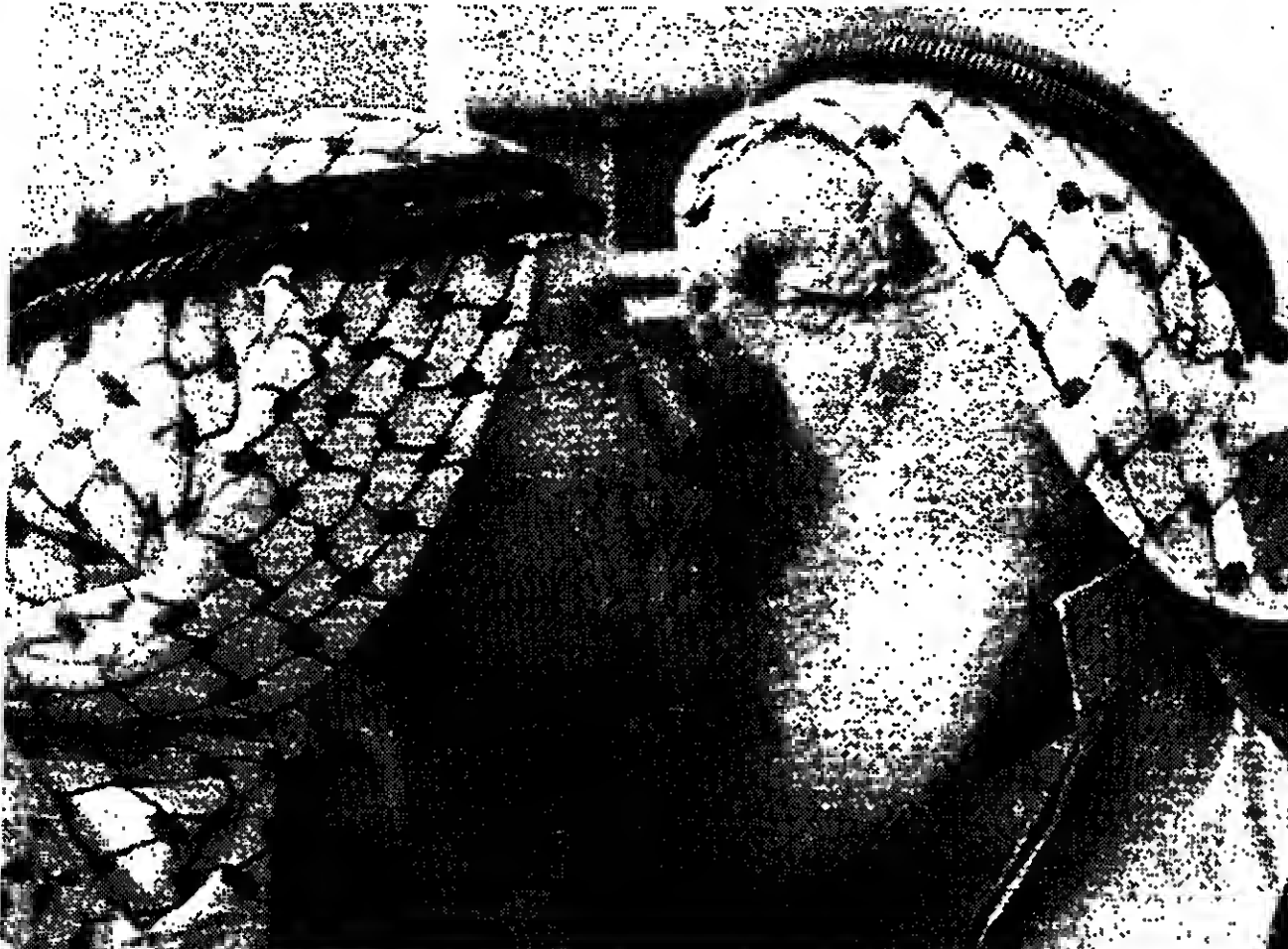
In last week's ballot, a 366-seat absolute majority in the 630-member lower house went to the rightist alliance composed of Mr. Berlusconi's Forza Italia party, the Northern League and the neofascist National Alliance led by Gianfranco Fini. Official results gave Mr. Berlusconi 155 seats, Mr. Bossi 106 and Mr. Fini 105, although Mr. Bossi now says his party won more. The figures mean that all three components of the alliance are vital to retaining a majority.

Mr. Berlusconi had planned to meet Wednesday with Mr. Bossi to continue the weeklong effort to agree on a government platform and a sharing of portfolios so that the alliance could respond quickly to a request by Mr. Scalfaro to form a government.

However, in a typically unruly tirade, Mr. Bossi renewed his objections to Mr. Berlusconi becoming prime minister. "Beware of Berlusconi," Mr. Bossi said, running Mr. Berlusconi's name together with the title of the German kaisers of yore.

"Berlusconi is the problem because, thanks to his TV, he can manipulate public opinion," he said. "Because of this we say we are in a state

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GOING HOME — Palestinian deportees embracing before the one at left returned in the West Bank on Tuesday from Jordan. Page 5.

Panel Throws KwaZulu Vote Into Doubt

By Paul Taylor

EMPANGENI, South Africa — Voting is not feasible in the black homeland of KwaZulu in the current climate of fear, intolerance, intimidation and violence, the commission running South Africa's first democratic, multi-racial election announced Tuesday night in an interim finding. With just three weeks until the April 26-28 vote, the gloomy report from the Independent Electoral Commission's chairman, Johannes Kriegler, will increase the pressure on a political summit on the KwaZulu crisis scheduled for Friday.

It will be attended by President Frederik W. de Klerk, Nelson Mandela, leader of the African National Congress, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi of the Inkatha Freedom Party and the Zulu king, Goodwill Zwelithini.

Mr. Mandela said Tuesday night he had "grave reservations" about the election commission's report and said any delay in the balloting "would be playing into the hands of those who don't want the election to take place." He said he had "new proposals" to make to the king in the hope of breaking the impasse.

Both Mr. Buthelezi, who is chief minister of KwaZulu, and King Zwelithini have called for an election boycott, saying the new post-apartheid constitution does not give enough power to the regions and fails to accommodate the Zulu assertion of sovereignty.

KwaZulu is the largest of South Africa's 10 black homelands created under apartheid and is home to some 5.5 million blacks, the vast majority of them Zulus. All 10 homelands are

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U.S. on Spot Over Jailed China Dissident

By Lena H. Sun

BEIJING — The rarest of China's most prominent political dissidents, Wei Jingsheng, appears to set the United States and China on a collision course over human rights. Unless Mr. Wei is released soon, this second arrest is likely to seriously undermine efforts by the Clinton administration to argue that China is making the kind of progress on human rights needed to merit an extension of Beijing's non-reciprocal trading status known as most-favored-nation status.

"When they've arrested China's most important dissident, it is very hard for State Department officials to say China is making significant progress on human rights," said Robin Munro, Hong Kong director for Human Rights Watch/Asia.

The move appears to be a calculated risk by the ruling Chinese Communist Party. Despite negative repercussions over Mr. Wei's deten-

tion, Chinese leaders seem to be betting that American economic interests will ultimately prevail over human rights concerns.

The commonly held belief among Chinese officials and Western analysts here is that the United States, fearful of being shut out of the world's biggest emerging market, will find a way to renew China's trading status in early June.

Mr. Wei, 43, was detained Friday by seven carloads of police as he was returning to the capital from the nearby port of Tianjin. He spent most of last month traveling outside of Beijing, apparently under pressure from the authorities.

The authorities are now saying that Mr. Wei is "being interrogated and placed under surveillance by the Beijing Public Security Department" because "he violated the law on many occasions and he is suspected of having committed new crimes when he was deprived of his political rights and on parole," the official Xinhua press agency said. It did not say what the new offenses were, or where he was being held. In Beijing, the U.S. Embassy said it had "expressed concern about Mr. Wei's situation"

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Zhirinovskiy and Friends: Quite a Party

By Celestine Bohlen

MOSCOW — Vladimir V. Zhirinovskiy, the ultranationalist whose party surprised the world in December with its strength in Russia's parliamentary elections, has put on a show that gave some inkling of what he might do if he ever came to power.

The Fifth Congress of his Liberal Democratic Party of Russia, held in a meeting hall on Moscow's outskirts last weekend, began with a lineup on stage of "Zhirinovskiy's Falcons," 18 young men in blue uniforms and black boots, some wearing dark glasses, all with side arms strapped to their waists. Then there was the

introduction of guests, including a German neofascist, a delegation sent by President Saddam Hussein of Iraq, and a Russian general recently freed from prison for his role in the uprising against President Boris N. Yeltsin in October.

But the crowning moment came when the 343 delegates, with not a single dissenting voice, not even a whimper of debate, raised their pink party cards in unison and voted to make Mr. Zhirinovskiy their dictator, with full powers to control all party affairs, from finances to appointments, until April 2, 2004. With the same vote, the delegates also agreed not to bother meeting again until 1997 — one year after Mr. Zhirinovskiy, by his most conservative estimate, will have become president of Russia, heading a "one-party government."

"The leader and the party are one and the same," Mr. Zhirinovskiy said in his opening speech. "This regime is in its final agony. And when a sick man is lying on the operating table, you need a single doctor, not a team of consultants." He also took his first swipe, indirectly, at Mr. Yeltsin, describing the 63-year-old president as ailing and in need of early retirement. There is no letup from the bombastic Mr. Zhirinovskiy, whose party turned Russian poli-

tics upside down four months ago by winning a quarter of the votes in the parliamentary elections. Though his outbursts have elicited guffaws or outrage here and abroad, they have also had an unmistakable effect on Russian and international politics. The Yeltsin government has absorbed the "Zhirinovskiy factor," notably in its foreign policy, which now puts considerable, and repeated, emphasis on the need to assert Russia's great-power status and on the interests of the 25 million ethnic Russians living outside the country.

What is less clear is his success at building a solid base for future electoral campaigns. His party did poorly in recent local elections, and polls continue to show that a majority of voters do not regard Mr. Zhirinovskiy as a serious contender for the presidency.

In a survey of 1,500 people by the Russian Center for Public Opinion and Market Research at the end of March, 63 percent said they did not trust Mr. Zhirinovskiy at all.

"It was some kind of a splash," said Gennadi Burbulis, a political strategist closely allied to the Yeltsin camp, referring to the December results. "Three months were enough to realize

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CHAMPIONS — Corliss Williamson, right, and Corey Beck embracing on the court after Arkansas beat Duke, 76-72, to win its first NCAA basketball title. Page 17

Kiosk

U.S. Says Saddam Offers Bounties

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — The United States charged Tuesday that Saddam Hussein's government was offering bounties of up to \$10,000 to anyone killing UN workers and other foreigners in northern Iraq. "The United States strongly condemns recent attacks against United Nations personnel and journalists in northern Iraq over the past several weeks," a State Department spokesman, Michael McCurry, said.

At United Nations headquarters in New York, a spokesman said two UN guards were wounded Tuesday in an attack on a convoy in a Kurdish region of northern Iraq.

A Kurdish group blamed Mr. Saddam for the death of the only permanent foreign journalist in Kurdish-controlled northern Iraq, Lissy Schmidt, 35, a German a free-lance correspondent for Agence France-Presse and German media, was shot dead along with her bodyguard in an ambush Sunday.

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Dow Jones	Trib Index
Up 82.06	Up 1.35%
3,675.41	109.02
The Dollar	
New York	Time, close
DM 1.7145	1.6855
Pound 1.484	1.4865
Yen 104.335	103.145
FF 5.8563	5.7658

Newsstand Prices

Andorra.....9.00 FF	Luxembourg 60 L. Fr
Antilles.....11.20 FF	Morocco.....8.00 Riols
Cameroun.....1.400 CFA	Qatar.....11.20 FF
Egypt.....9.00 FF	Reunion.....11.20 FF
France.....940 CFA	Saudi Arabia.....9.00 R.
Gabon.....300 CFA	Senegal.....940 CFA
Greece.....1.120 CFA	Spain.....1.000 Din
Ivory Coast.....1.120 CFA	Tunisia.....1.000 Din
Jordan.....1 JD	Turkey.....T.L. 15,000
Lebanon.....US\$ 1.50	U.A.E.....8.50 Dirh
	U.S. Mil. (Eur.) \$1.10

In Italy, Election Marks a Shift to Winner-Takes-All Politics

By Alan Cowell
New York Times Service

ROME — If Italy's election turns out to herald the peaceful revolution some forecast before the vote, the reason will not just lie in new faces and new promises of change after years of corruption and stagnation.

Rather, the most fundamental change will be in the relationship between winner and loser, between a government and an opposition that will have to digest the most shocking implication of the vote: In Italy's new political system, the winner takes almost everything and the loser gets virtually nothing.

For more than 40 years, Italian politics developed on a system the Italians call *consociativismo*, which denoted the compromise and pain-easing that co-opted the government's opponents into the machinery of power. Even in opposition, the Communists — now called the Demo-

cratic Party of the Left — kept a solid share of the spoils.

The Communists controlled one of the three state-run television channels, just as the Christian Democrats and the Socialists did. They provided the speaker of Parliament and the heads of important parliamentary commissions. Business co-operatives set up by the party shared in big state contracts. Legislation on labor

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rights, pensions and health care preempted serious opposition to successive Christian Democrat-led coalitions as politicians and businessmen plundered the state coffers.

"They were never in government," said Paolo Viola, a historian in Palermo, "but they were always part of the power structure."

Last week, though, when a rightist alli-

ance led by the media magnate Silvio Berlusconi surged to victory, it did so under a newly legislated political system that broke with the proportional representation underpinning this rownten pact between government and opposition, the central principle of Italy's political culture.

And now, the left — embedded in Italian politics for decades, since the struggle against fascism — faces a reappraisal as profound as it confronted after the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989.

Signs that Mr. Berlusconi's alliance wants to play these new rules to the full are already apparent.

Gianfranco Fini, the neo-fascist leader whose 105 parliamentary seats are crucial to the right's 366-seat majority in the lower house, said in a recent interview: "Enough with consociativismo in management, in government. Nobody can stress it more than me."

He threatened "a radical renewal of

the 40-year-old nomenclature of this country" — a warning that applied as much to the left as it did to the former Christian Democrats, who emerged from the election with only 46 lower house seats.

Massimo d'Almeida, deputy leader of the former Communists, has expressed fears that "delicate balances" will be upset by the vote.

"If the majority does not respect the minority," he said, "we will end up not in Europe but in certain parts of Latin America."

Under the new electoral system, Italians chose three-quarters of the lower house of Parliament under a direct-voting system in each district, and the remaining 25 percent under the old proportional system. Voters cast one vote for an individual candidate and one vote for the party of their choice.

In the party vote, the Democratic Par-

ty of the Left ran a close second to Mr. Berlusconi's Forza Italia party.

Forza Italia secured 21 percent of the vote and the former Communists 20.4 percent, which is 4 percent higher than their share of the ballot in the last national elections in 1992. They were bolstered by surprise victories in part of the conservative south, which had traditionally supported the defunct Christian Democrats.

Because Forza Italia is aligned with two other major rightist parties, its coalition has 58 percent of the seats, while the former Communists and their weaker allies have only 34 percent of the total.

But the fact that the leftists showed such strong voter support gives them reason for hope. Moreover, they remain probably the best-organized, deepest-rooted and widest-spread group among the main players to emerge from last week's election. But they have yet to define how they will build credentials as a credible alternative.

Japan's Reactor Puts It on Path to Fuel Independence

By T. R. Reid
Washington Post Service

SHIRAKI, Japan — Japan took an important step along its bold and controversial course toward energy independence Tuesday when engineers flawlessly started a sustained nuclear reaction in an experimental plutonium-fueled power plant.

The Monju reactor plant, a big inverted concrete thimble, is a \$6 billion prototype of a chain of breeder reactors the Japanese plan to build around this archipelago, which has no fossil fuel resources.

Breeder reactors have been run on a smaller scale in the United States for decades. They are designed to breed new fuel at the same time they produce heat — like a fireplace that burns all night but has more logs the next morning than it started with.

When the Monju reactor was planned a generation ago, this seemed perfect for a power-hungry industrial nation that has to import virtually all its energy supply. But today the plan looks less attractive, because the fuel it breeds is plutonium, a dangerously toxic material that can be used for nuclear bombs, and is currently in oversupply around the world.

Mindful of criticism, particularly

from foreign environmental groups, officials here are now stressing another aspect of their breeder-reactor concept: with some design changes, a reactor like the Monju can be made to consume rather than breed plutonium.

If that is possible, breeder reactors might be beneficial to the U.S. and other countries now saddled with plutonium supplies — left over from Cold War nuclear weapons — that nobody has found a good way to dispose of. Burning the plutonium in electric power plants might provide an alternative.

Whether or not it turns out to be helpful, the breeder reactor technology has been expensive. The plant here was years behind schedule in reaching Tuesday's chain reaction, or "initial criticality," and it cost far more than a normal reactor plant of the same size.

This has been embarrassing to Japan's utility industry and the government, particularly since there is a glut of uranium fuel and plutonium is more expensive and more dangerous.

But the Japanese are thinking ahead. "This is a plan for the 21st century, or the 22d century," said Satsuki Eda, director of Japan's



WARNING FROM RUSSIAN NUCLEAR WORKERS — A nuclear power station worker confronting Russian officials Tuesday during a protest at the parliament building in Moscow. The workers warned that failure to pay their wages could lead to a major disaster.

Science and Technology Agency. "Japan is poor in energy resources, so we have to use the power of our technology to build a future for ourselves."

Japan is the financial and technological leader of Asia, and its commitment to nuclear plants to meet future power needs is being followed all over the world's most populous continent. While nuclear development has been stalled because of political opposition in Europe and the United States, China, South Korea, and the developing nations of Southeast Asia are moving strongly into nuclear power production.

An electric power plant is basically a big tea pot. Water in a large pot is heated, and the steam drives turbines to make electricity.

A coal- or oil-fueled plant works something like a kitchen stove, with a fire to boil the water. This is cheap, at least for countries with ready access to coal or oil, but it produces air pollution and the "greenhouse gases" some believe cause global warming.

In a nuclear plant, a controlled atomic reaction releases heat energy to replace the fire. With no burning fuel, there is no air pollution and no increase in global warming.

The downside is that nuclear plants pose the threat of an atomic accident, like those that made Three Mile Island and Chernobyl part of everyone's disaster language. Disposal of used fuel is also difficult.

This possibility has not yet proven to be a political block to nuclear development here.

The Japanese have more faith both in the wisdom of government regulators and in the virtues of technology than have Americans and others. Moreover, the Japanese safety record in the 42 reactors operating now has been excellent, according to Allen E. Dubberley, a

General Electric engineer who was the U.S. observer here.

Accordingly, the Japanese public has been essentially passive — not eagerly supportive of nuclear power, but not agitated against it, either. Most of the opposition to Japan's plutonium reactor plan has come from American and British anti-nuclear groups.

Tuesday's long-awaited chain reaction at Monju was the chief omelette of the day for Japan. But only a scattered group of protesters gathered on the sunny beach here, beating drums and chanting. A planned demonstration in Tokyo, meanwhile, drew just eight people, according to news reports.

Pyongyang Sees Shades of 1950 War Could Break Out at Any Moment, North Korea Says

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO — The official North Korean press agency said Tuesday that war clouds were hanging over the Korean Peninsula, with the situation closely resembling that on the eve of the 1950-53 Korean conflict.

In an alarmist assessment of events related to the crisis over Pyongyang's suspected nuclear weapons program, the Korean Central News Agency said, "A touch-and-go situation is prevailing on the Korean Peninsula in which a war may break out at any moment."

The agency said the United States was planning to stage provocative large-scale war games, deploy Patriot missiles in South Korea and ship in additional troops and weapons to counter an anticipated North Korean attack.

"The U.S. military has worked out an operational plan to hurl 600,000 troops, more than 200 warships and 1,600 aircraft and so on from the U.S. mainland within 80 days in case of an 'emergency' on the Korean Peninsula," the agency said.

"On bellicose orders from the U.S. ruling quarters and under their aggressive war plan, 48 U.S. missile launchers and a more than 800-man Patriot missile unit are on their way to South Korea at present."

It added: "Overseas-based war-

planes of various types are flying into U.S. Air Force bases in South Korea on the heels of the other, and the airlifted aggressor troops and lethal equipment are being deployed in operational zones.

"And U.S. vessels including a nuclear aircraft carrier are at so close a range that they can reach the coastal area of Korea within 24 hours."

The news agency cited the call by South Korea's president, Kim Young Sam, to his military chiefs to set up what it called a thoroughgoing alert posture against the North, a South Korean military alert and a visit by the country's prime minister to frontline units.

These and several other ominous developments, the agency said, "tell that the situation on the Korean Peninsula resembles that on the eve of the past Korean War."

Although North Korea insists that U.S. and South Korean forces attacked northward on June 25, 1950, history generally records that it was the North that launched a massive invasion on that day.

The war seemed lost for the United States and South Korea until General Douglas MacArthur landed a UN-mandated force at Inchon, on the Yellow Sea coast, threatening the North's supply lines and causing China to intervene on North Korea's side.

The war became stalemated, and it was not until 1953 that the two sides signed the truce that has maintained a tense peace on the peninsula ever since.

In Seoul on Tuesday, meanwhile, more than 2,000 students fought with police officers during a protest of South Korea's agreement to deploy the Patriot missiles. Dozens of students were injured in clashes with about 1,000 riot police officers. About 300 students were arrested.

Protesters shouting for South Korea's president to resign marched onto a busy street after a two-hour campus rally. They also accused Mr. Kim's government of having made too many concessions in lowering barriers to foreign rice and other farm products.

(Reuters, AP)

Chad Says Libya to Start Leaving Disputed Area

Agence France-Press

NDJAMENA, Chad — The government said Tuesday that Libya would begin to withdraw troops and officials occupying Chad's northern Aozou strip April 15 and complete the operation by May 30.

Under an agreement reached Monday, after the settlement of a long dispute over the uranium-rich territory, the troop withdrawal and mine-lifting operations are to be supervised by a team of 25 Libyan and 25 Chadian officers. The agreement provides for joint patrols on the border of the territory, which was occupied by Libya in 1972 and which the International Court of Justice in The Hague ruled two months ago belonged to Chad.

U.S. Recalls Crayons, Citing a Lead Hazard

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Consumer Product Safety Commission on Tuesday recalled 11 brands of crayons imported from China because they contain lead.

"Throw these crayons in the trash or take them back to the store for a refund," said Ann Brown, chairman of the commission. The commission said three of the brands "contain enough lead to present a lead-poisoning hazard to young children who might eat or chew on the crayons."

They are "121 Jumbo Crayons," distributed by Concord Enterprises; "Safe 48 Non-Toxic I'm a Toys 'R' Us Kid! Crayons," distributed by Toys 'R' Us; and "12 Crayons, Glory" and "18 Crayons That Paint," distributed by Glory Stationery Manufacturing Co.

A spokeswoman for the Toys 'R' Us headquarters in Paramus, New Jersey, told the International Herald Tribune that its stores outside the United States did not sell the tainted crayons and that few were sold inside the United States. The company has not purchased the crayons since 1990, she said.

The Glory crayons also include the legend "Conforms ASTM D-4236" the commission said, which is supposed to be an indication that the formula has been reviewed by a toxicologist.

The other eight brands, the panel said, "do not contain enough lead to increase the blood level above the threshold level for lead poisoning" for a child typically chewing on small pieces of lead-containing crayons over a span of time.

But the agency added that it was "very concerned about these crayons because they add to the overall 'lead load' to children who may eat them."

Lead has long been recognized as a hazardous substance, especially to young children and infants. It can cause irreversible brain damage and can impair mental functioning.

60 Gravestones Are Damaged In Slovakia Jewish Cemetery

Reuters

BRATISLAVA, Slovakia — Vandals damaged more than 60 gravestones at a Jewish cemetery in western Slovakia during the weekend, Slovak Jewish leaders said on Tuesday.

Some tombstones were "uprooted with great force, but one appeared to have been hit with a hammer," a Jewish community leader, Frantisek Alexander, told Reuters.

Mr. Alexander, who visited the wrecked cemetery at Vrbovec, said the damage occurred at the end of last week, coinciding with the Jewish Passover and Christian Easter religious holidays. No suspects have been identified.

New Exhibit Planned for Buchenwald

Reuters

BONN — Germany will unveil a new museum plan for the former Nazi concentration camp at Buchenwald this week to show how it was used only by the Nazis but by Soviet occupation forces and East German Communist propagandists.

The new exhibit, designed by leading historians, will explain for the first time how Soviet troops interned captured Nazis and other political opponents there from 1945 to 1950, a fact kept quiet during four decades of Communist rule.

It will also redesign the existing exhibit on the Nazi era, an East German display that glorifies the resistance work of Communist inmates at Buchenwald, the museum director, Werner Bruns, said.

The historians, who will unveil the plan on Saturday just before surviving inmates mark the 49th anniversary of their liberation, propose a smaller separate museum on the Stalinist era so that the main focus remains on the Nazis' crimes.

"You simply cannot put what the Soviets did on a par with what the Nazis did," Mr. Bruns said.

About 56,000 inmates died under the Nazis in Buchenwald, a hilltop camp near Weimar in East Germany, and another 10,000 fell victim to harsh Soviet post-war internment there.

Austria President to Mideast

Reuters

VIENNA — Austria's president, Thomas Klestil, will be on state visits in Syria and Jordan from Saturday to Wednesday, Austria Press-Agentur reported.

WORLD BRIEFS

Britain Bars Talks During IRA Truce

DUBLIN (Reuters) — Hours before the Irish Republican Army's most important cease-fire since 1975, Britain struck firmly on Tuesday to its view that the unilateral three-day truce was not enough to unlock a stalled peace process.

But Sinn Fein, the IRA's political wing, said it still hoped that London would use the break in fighting to contact it to explain a British-Irish peace offer. The cease-fire could then become open-ended, Sinn Fein has hinted. But Britain remained unimpressed.

"What is needed is not a three-day cease-fire, after which the killing would begin again, but a permanent end to violence," a British government spokesman said Tuesday.

New Tally of Space Shots Gone Awry

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — Since the space age began, 271 missions have failed or malfunctioned and two-thirds of the failures were Soviet or Russian, according to a new study released on Tuesday.

Of the 271 missions cited, 108 were considered failures. They included infamous tragedies, such as the 1986 shuttle Challenger disaster, as well as less costly, unmanned missions that went awry. The study by the Virginia-based Teal Space Consulting Company said 71 of the payload failures since 1958 were Soviet or Russian in origin, and 34 were American. It did not give the total number of successful missions.

The Soviet-made Cosmos satellite accounted for more than half of the Soviet payload failures. Most of the U.S. payload failures occurred during the 1960s. About one dozen of the failures were unmanned planetary probes in that decade, but three major missions failed in 1992 and 1993.

Malaysia Warns on 'Schindler's List'

KUALA LUMPUR (AP) — Malaysia warned the distributor of the Holocaust film "Schindler's List" on Tuesday that it could not demand that the movie be shown here uncut.

The warning followed a cabinet decision last week to lift a ban on the film, which Malaysian censors had rejected as propaganda designed to gain support for Israel and Jews. At the time, it was said that the film still might be subject to cuts, particularly of scenes depicting acts of violence.

United International Pictures then said that the Academy Award-winning movie, directed by Steven Spielberg, would not be screened in Malaysia if any scenes were cut.

"Don't point a pistol at us while asking for something," Deputy Home Minister Megat Jumi Megat Ayoh said on Tuesday. "Spielberg does not run this country."

Children Were in Cockpit, Panel Says

MOSCOW (Reuters) — A Russian government commission investigating the crash of an Aeroflot Airbus 310 that killed all 75 people aboard confirmed Tuesday that one of the cockpit crew was showing his children how to pilot the plane minutes before it went down. A commission statement did not say directly that this was the reason for the March 23 crash in Siberia.

The statement said the flight recorders showed the scheduled flight from Moscow to Hong Kong was proceeding without any problems until it had passed over the Siberian city of Novokuznetsk.

It then said: "It was established that present in the cockpit were the son and a daughter of a crew member who, in violation of flight rules, was demonstrating and explaining to them the principles of piloting a plane. Four minutes after passing Novokuznetsk the plane diverted to the right more than it should, which resulted in a sharp loss of altitude and collision with the ground."

Delhi Protesters Attack Trade Pact

NEW DELHI (Reuters) — Several policemen and demonstrators were injured Tuesday as tens of thousands of people protested against the government's acceptance of a world trade agreement.

Witnesses said the police had been hurt by stones thrown by some in the crowd protesting the pact reached last year by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and due to be ratified next week in Morocco. The protesters, from trade unions and agricultural, youth and women's groups, said the agreement was against India's interests.

The government denies the demonstrators' claim that the pact would allow foreign companies to patent the high-yielding seeds that in the 1960s set off the "green revolution" that made India largely self-sufficient in food grains. Some of the protesters also say that India's new market-oriented economic program favors the rich.

Rutskoi Calls for Ouster of Yeltsin

MOSCOW (Reuters) — Former Vice President Alexander V. Rutskoi began a campaign on Tuesday to remove President Boris N. Yeltsin from office, dealing a new blow to the Russian leader's hopes for a political truce.

In a confrontational interview published in Pravda, Mr. Rutskoi, 46, called Russia's leaders swindlers and villains and ruled out any chance of reconciliation. In October, Mr. Rutskoi led a violent uprising against Mr. Yeltsin, whose five-year term ends in mid-1996. Mr. Rutskoi was fired from prison in February after he was granted amnesty by the parliament.

"There should be no illusions about the possibility of any changes for the better under this president and this government," he said. "That is why it is necessary to stop playing with consensus or agreements and get down to work — to change the authorities by legal methods."

TRAVEL UPDATE

Strike May Shut Paris-Area Museums

PARIS (Reuters) — Labor unions threatened to close some of France's leading museums in a 24-hour strike planned for Wednesday to back demands for higher wages and better working conditions.

The Democratic Labor Federation said the strike could close the Louvre and Orsay museums in Paris and the Versailles palace near the capital, and cause severe disruption at other museums. Four unions are organizing the strike, saying the museums' staff of 2,500 were getting insufficient pay for increasingly complex duties.

Paris authorities braced for a subway and bus strike Thursday over feared job losses in a proposed transport reform bill for the capital region. The work stoppage, called by most of the transport unions, is expected to be widely observed and cause major disruptions. (AFP)

Lego, the Danish toy maker, said it would build its first theme park outside Denmark at Britain's old Windsor Safari Park, to the west of London. (Reuters)

Greek tobacco growers blocked road and rail links between Athens and the northern port of Salonika for a fifth day on Tuesday to protest low prices. (Reuters)

Foreign tour groups alarmed by bombings at Istanbul's historic sites are canceling vacations to Turkey in large numbers. A Spanish man and a Tunisian woman were killed and 13 people were wounded in a bomb explosion at the city's 15-century covered market on Saturday, the second attack on the bazaar in 10 days. Four people were hurt in a blast there on March 24. Three tourists were injured in a blast in the garden of the 6th-century Hagia Sophia basilica on March 27. (Reuters)

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Bhutan Refugees Accuse Regime of a Drive for Cultural Purity

By John Ward Anderson
and Molly Moore

WASHINGTON Post Service
SANCHI, Bhutan — Remo-shor Ghaley and more than 40 relatives and neighbors fled their village last month after police officers demolished their homes and threatened to kill them.

charging they had helped anti-government terrorists destroy a local bridge.
Mr. Ghaley said the villagers had nothing to do with the bridge-razing. Instead, he said, the villagers had been forcibly evicted from their isolated Buddhist kingdom—their homeland for generations — be-

cause of their ethnic Nepalese and Hindu heritage.
Refugees accuse the government of Bhutan, a kingdom of about 600,000 in the Himalayas, of expelling up to 15 percent of its population in three years to be rid of people it does not consider true Bhutanese.

The refugees charge that the monarchy is intent on preserving its national culture, noting that all citizens are required to wear native dress and buildings must conform to traditional architecture.
"They told us to leave the country," said Mr. Ghaley, who was stopped at a border checkpoint en-

route to southeastern Nepal, where 85,000 people now live in refugee camps.
Mr. Ghaley said the refugees were legitimate citizens of Bhutan who had been thrown out by security forces.

There are reports of brutalization, rape and torture. Officials deny committing atrocities or forcing citizens from the kingdom.
Unlike more high-profile conflicts, the problems in isolated Bhutan have remained nearly invisible to the rest of the world.

Closed to outsiders for centuries, Bhutan has diplomatic relations with only 18 countries. The kingdom limits the number of tourists, journalists and other foreigners admitted and restricts the travel of its citizens abroad.

Inside the country, the government requires all citizens to wear robe-like clothing, bans television satellite antennas and discourages marriage of its people with non-Bhutanese. The effort to protect the nation's culture and traditions has coincided with the kingdom's leap, in a single generation, from medieval society to 20th-century state.

"We did not have military might or economic strength," said King Jigme Singye Wangchuk, 38. "Our only safeguard was to follow a policy of isolation. Obviously, we paid a very heavy price. When everybody else was busy starting schools

and building roads, we were totally and completely isolated and had no development program."
Until 1962, Bhutan had no roads, no electricity, no hospitals, no schools and no postal system. While the country remained what the World Wildlife Fund has labeled "one of the ecological wonders of the world," with 5,000 species of plants, 160 species of mammals and more than 770 types of birds, the people of Bhutan suffered some of the highest poverty, infant mortality and illiteracy rates in the world. Then in the early 1960s, King Wangchuk's father, at the time the reigning monarch, recognized the need to enter the modern age. "We started from scratch," his son said.

Concerned about China's domination of Tibet in the north, Bhutan turned to India, which surrounds it on three sides, and solicited its foreign policy decisions in return for New Delhi's financing most of the country's budget. India built the first paved roads and paid to send promising Bhutanese youngsters to school in the Indian hill states so they could bring administrative skills back home.

Bhutan nurtured relations with small, nonthreatening European nations. Denmark, Sweden and Switzerland financed programs to build schools and medical clinics, improve agricultural production and train civil servants. The country depends on foreign aid for 65 percent of its annual budget but is aiming for self-sufficiency.

Today, with 90 percent of its people engaged in subsistence farming and a literacy rate of about 38 percent, the country is struggling to increase its standard of living and evolve into a more modern society without destroying its environment, culture and religion.

"We're trying to modernize our country, not Westernize it," said Foreign Minister Tenzin Dorjee. "We have not allowed satellite TV. We feel it will erode our country in no time — within a year or two our value system would change."

Many of Bhutan's brightest young people, sent abroad for education, return with ideas that clash with the country's efforts to protect its culture.

Higher education levels and blossoming private businesses are luring young people off the farms and into rapidly growing towns, raising the demand for labor to tend the fields, and that outside-world problems of urbanization will begin to blight Bhutan. Already, officials say, crime rates and drug use are rising. Posters nailed to bridges and trees along sidewalks warn residents of the perils of AIDS.

"There's too much wishful thinking behind the intent to preserve their cultural identity," said a Western aid official who has watched the country's rapid change. "Twenty years ago they could have said, 'We'll stay isolated.' Now it's too late. There are too many educated young people."

Bhutan's isolation has also contributed to confusion over who is to be believed in the dispute about the treatment of the country's ethnic Nepalese. There are few independent experts, and travel restrictions impede verification of claims that ethnic Nepalese have been brutalized and forced out.

U.S. Bishop Backs Flogging In Singapore

The Associated Press

SINGAPORE — An 18-year-old American deserves to be caned for vandalizing cars and is typical of many teenagers in the United States, according to a U.S. clergyman, in a letter published by The Straits Times on Tuesday. The Reverend Montgomery Griffith-Mair said Michael P. Fay was a perfect example of many of today's American teenagers who are running amok without fear of punishment.

Mr. Fay pleaded guilty to vandalism, mischief and possession of stolen property. He was accused of spraying paint and tossing eggs on cars last year. His appeal against the sentence of six strokes of a bamboo cane, four months in jail, and a fine was dismissed last week.

Bishop Griffith-Mair, presiding bishop of the National Anglican Church and co-bishop of the Anglican Rite Synod, said Mr. Fay "is a product of an American society that deems itself so 'enlightened' and 'humane' that it refuses to correct and discipline its law-breaking and anti-social teenagers with the rod."

"Drive a lesson into Fay and thousands of other flippant teenagers like him? Most certainly. And the quicker the better," the bishop wrote. His church is a small Anglican jurisdiction with headquarters in Westport, New Hampshire.

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Paris American Center, With New Team, Plans June Opening

By John Rockwell
New York Times Service

PARIS — There it sits, a gleaming, marbled, fully functional architectural abstraction. It is surrounded by a nearly finished city park and staffed by 22 busy people. But for the moment, at least, it's a shell.

This is the current state of the new American Center in the Bercy district of eastern Paris. Frank Gehry's building, which cost a big chunk of the \$40 million the center obtained in 1987 when it sold its old quarters in central Paris, was pretty much completed months ago.

But the center's board had decided in the fall of 1992 that it did not have enough money to proceed with long-range plans for this combined museum, performance space, educational facility and community center. The programming staff was messily fired and uneasy silence settled on what was to have been a major showcase of American culture in the French capital.

Now, signs of life can be discerned moving warily through the conceptual wreckage.

The board of trustees has been reorganized with what seems like a more distinctly American cast. New leaders have emerged, both on the board and on a transition leadership committee. New money — tangible, if not yet overwhelming in quantity — is coming in. A skeletal programming staff has been assembled. And an opening date has at last been set: June 7.

In keeping with the modest profile the center is trying to assume, the day is being billed not as a flashy gala but as an amiable marathon leading to the partial, gradual opening of the center and set just before the summer vacation, when nothing much cultural happens in Paris, anyhow.

On the other hand, the new team hints that President Bill Clinton might stop by on his D-Day rounds, so hopes are not all that modest.

The new power at the center is Frederick B. Henry, who joined the board a little more than two years ago. Henry, the president of the Bobbin Foundation, is a longtime New York arts figure, active at the Whitney Museum and on other arts boards. He is already co-chairman of the center's board with Judith Pissar, the former sole chairman.

Henry said in a recent interview that Pissar

had already withdrawn from her functions as chairman, as had Henry Pillsbury from his longtime role as executive director. Pillsbury is still much in evidence, however, putting out the empty building he had so much to do with (insignificantly). In September, Henry said it was "the plan" to name Pillsbury board president (which ranks under the chairman in the pecking order) and for Pissar formally to relinquish her post.

In the meantime, Henry set up a transitional "special committee," headed by himself and Rachel Newton Bellow, who is currently serving as board president, to run the center between mid-1993 and the end of 1994. Bellow has taken a leave as program officer for arts and culture at the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation in New York.

If the center's previous sin was pride — hurrying up a huge building and assuming money would materialize to support activities within it — Henry and Bellow suggested the problem now was to adjust 1980s expectations to 1990s realities.

"The center's problems were an opportunity for it to redefine itself at this moment," Bellow argued. The original plan was to open in Sep-

tember 1993 with an ambitious exhibition of commissioned art called "Landscape as Metaphor," which had a budget of \$1.5 million. Now, programming ideas call for more varied and modest events, with the average item budgeted at \$150,000 to \$250,000.

Most of these events, which fill the calendar with a few gaps for the center's first 18 months of operation, were planned by volunteers drawn from American arts institutions. Some projects are overtly collaborative, in that the shows or performances will also be seen in the United States. Most are collaborative in the sense that the Americans, whom Henry and Bellow described as mostly young and venturesome, brought the friskiness and originality of the American arts scene with them.

PROGRAMS have been divided into four areas: visual arts, performances, film and video, and conferences.

Among the many more or less fixed plans are "Pure Beauty: Some Recent Work From Los Angeles," "Stations," a video installation by Bill Viola; "Griot New York," a week of performances by the Garth Fagan Dance Company; a piano recital of John Cage's music

by Margaret Leng Tan; "Banned in the U.S.A.," censored American films from 1916 to the present; "Exchanges in the Dark: Film Noir in France and Hollywood"; and "War and Memory in France and the U.S.," a conference on World War II, Vietnam and the Gulf War. In addition, several French troupes are scheduled.

Henry said that when the old board first realized the extent of the center's financial crisis in mid-1992, the reaction was desperate. "Among some members of the board, there was a real sense of panic," he said. The new team wants to look both prudent and bold. It feels action is necessary to quicken interest among potential donors, but is unwilling to commit to programs or staff without money in hand.

"Money itself is not the problem," Bellow argued. "What the American Center needed was a plan, and programs, in all areas. But we discipline ourselves. We won't commit to projects we haven't the resources for."

For the center to be fully operational, the financial goals remain the same as in 1992: an annual operating budget of \$5 million to \$8 million with an endowment of \$25 million.

Henry said the center had \$6 million in hand and pledges for another \$4 million for its endowment. Only \$2.3 million has come in so far for the first operating year, but he said that was tolerable since the center now was "not springing fully developed onto the Paris stage."

Despite the role played by Olivier Brunet, a French banker who is the center's new vice president and treasurer, much of the fundraising knowhow is American. Given French reliance on government subsidy, Bellow said, "there is no way to find that level of not-for-profit expertise in France." Of the 27 major individual and corporate sponsors for the center's opening year, 5 are French.

Still, in this time of increased cultural tension between France and the United States, both Henry and Bellow are determined that the center not be perceived simply as a display window for American art. Many of the planned programs reflect French and American links or reactions to common problems.

Henry had the simplest possible explanation for this dual emphasis. "The center is American, but it's located in Paris," he said. "It's a united operation."

'Billboards' Rescues Joffrey Ballet

By William Harris

NEW YORK — The dance world is in a funk. Financing is tight, bookings are scarce and, worse, few dance events are generating the kind of must-see enthusiasm that will broaden the audience base.

There are, of course, exceptions, notably Mikhail Baryshnikov's White Oak Project and the Joffrey Ballet's "Billboards." "Billboards," the four-part, full-length ballet set to a medley of 14 Prince songs, was conceived by the Joffrey's artistic director, Gerald Arpino, and choreographed by Laura Dean, Charles Moulton, Mary Singleton and Peter Pucci.

The reviews have been mixed and some balletomanes have belittled, but "Billboards" has become a money-making phenomenon.

Since its premiere in Iowa City in January 1993, this rock ballet has already been seen by close to 200,000 in 16 cities across the United States — the equivalent of "Angels in America" playing to capacity on Broadway for six and a half months.

It consistently packs houses — drawing mostly younger audiences — and has generated \$2.5 million in income for the Joffrey, according to Cecil C. Conner, the company's executive director.

Thanks to the success of "Billboards," the Joffrey has attracted 12 new board members and additional financing sources. The troupe can also finally afford to present a repertory season in its home city of New York for the first time since 1991.

The cost is \$850,000, but Conner is confident of recouping the money. "We hope to sell at least \$1 million worth of tickets," he says.

Beginning Wednesday, the company will begin a two-week stay at the New York State Theater at Lincoln Center. It will present two programs of mixed repertory and nine performances of "Billboards."

Although "Billboards" was seen in New York only five months ago as part of the Next Wave Festival at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, Arpino and Conner are betting that its potential audience has hardly been tapped.

"Men who have no previous experience of dance," says Arpino, "have gone out and bought tickets to 'Billboards' and taken their girlfriends and families. I have converted so many people." Will they return to sample the other ballets being offered?

"Yes," he insists. "The rep programs have sold better when played with 'Billboards.'"

The popularity of "Billboards" could not have come at a better time. Since 1989, the Joffrey has weathered a series of financial and morale crises. But is there a downside to this megahit? Has the 38-year-old Joffrey lost its credibility as a classical ballet company?

What comes next, "Billboards II"? The normally talkative Arpino won't cite specifics, saying only that a number of things are percolating: the postmodern choreographer Ralph Lemon, for one, has been asked to create a new ballet.

"Billboards" has allowed us not only to introduce but to seduce a new audience into

Consider the repertory evenings to be seen at Lincoln Center. Included on the programs is the Joffrey's much-anticipated New York premiere of "Les Présages," a reconstruction of Leonide Massine's 1933 ballet set to Tchaikovsky's Fifth Symphony; "The Garden of Villandry," choreographed in 1979 by Martha Clarke, Felix Blaska and Robby Barnett, and the world premiere of "A Tri-Fling," an eight-minute dance commissioned from Randy Duncan, a Chicago-based choreographer, set to a score for solo viola and percussion by Tommy Mother.

In addition, there will be revivals of three works by Arpino, "Italian Suite" (1983), "Light Rain" (1981) and "Valentine" (1971), as well as Jiri Kylian's "Return to a Strange Land" (1975) and Sir Frederick Ashton's "Les Faineants" (1937).

The Joffrey was the first American troupe to dance work by Kylian, who is artistic director of the Netherlands Dance Theater. It was also the first ballet company to embrace the work of Twyla Tharp, who in 1973 created "Dance Coupe" for the ensemble, a hip precursor to "Billboards" choreographed to Beach Boys songs.

recognizing the magnitude of the art of dance," says Arpino, 66, who co-founded the company with Robert Joffrey. "Billboards" is the appetizer to the rest of the menu that is to come. The direction of the company is to continue to explore, to experiment and to introduce what is possible in dance — to be a catalyst."

In other words, Arpino isn't quite sure what's next. For the moment, it doesn't matter. "Billboards" has given the Joffrey some breathing room.

New touring options have opened. The Joffrey has a refreshed visibility and a steadier flow of cash. Following its New York season, the company hits the road once again, stopping in 11 cities. Last year, the Joffrey dancers worked 32 weeks; this year, they will work 40 weeks.

Arpino will probably continue to do what the Joffrey has always done: To showcase young dancers in an eclectic mix of dance styles that juxtaposes the sexy, pop-culture aesthetic and the experimentation of downtown dance with the more formal sensibility of classical ballet.

"The Joffrey has always been different from other ballet companies," says Arpino. "I was not brought up in the European style of ballet or with a highly intellectual appreciation of art. This is an American company. I'm involved with people finding dance for the first time. One must know tradition, which is why I do 20th-century classics. But I don't want to be caught up in and rehab the past."

Like many dance troupes, the Joffrey has been hit by AIDS. Company dancers such as Glenn White, Gregory Huffman and Edward Sterle have died.

Arpino still keeps near his desk a photo of Sierke, 23, the dancer and choreographer he says was being grooming as a possible successor.

"I love the voices of the young," says Arpino. "Yet adversity is what the Joffrey was brought up on. I never do what people expect me to do."

William Harris, a consulting editor of Dance Ink, wrote this for The New York Times.

LONDON THEATER

Psychodrama (Not by Chekhov)



Helen Mirren as Natalya in Turgenev's "A Month in the Country," at the Albery.

By Sheridan Morley
International Herald Tribune

LONDON — "A Month in the Country" is the one that isn't by Chekhov. He even claimed not to like it very much, which seems a little ungrateful considering that within 40 years he had borrowed most of its plot and all of its characters for several other works, including "Uncle Vanya."

But Turgenev wrote this one, in 1848, which means it is the first modern psychological drama despite the fact that it lay unperformed for almost 20 years and did not fully make its mark until a famous Stanislavsky production in 1909.

Since then it has been around a good deal, and we have it now at the Albery in a superbly cast and thoughtful Bill Bryden production that brings both Helen Mirren and John Hurt back to the West End after long absences but at the very height of their considerable form.

Mirren's Natalya Petrovna is a constant and starchy center for the dozen equally entrancing characters who revolve in her orbit. Most are in midlife crisis or the pangs of unrequited love, and they are the creations of a writer who was first and foremost a novelist rather than a dramatist.

So not a lot happens very slowly.

Natalya decides, early in the evening, that she is bored of her country life with the faithful if dull husband (Gawn Grainger) and equally bored of her platonic lover (Hurt). Enter, consequently, a young tutor (Joseph Fiennes), somewhat low in charisma for the role and exit three hours later virtually all the men in her life, leaving Natalya to reflect ruefully but none too passionately on the problems of loving not deeply but too readily.

Long on languid romantic boredom, short on the brutal reality of its consequences, "A Month in the Country" allows us to come to

terms with Russia in the mid-19th century or at least the summer-house lives of its ruling classes.

In an evening of great performances — any of which would do credit to a subsidized house with a permanent company and twice the rehearsal time — the best of all comes from John Standing as the cynical, self-hating doctor later to be recycled by Chekhov for "The Three Sisters." Standing has always been a remarkable and underrated character actor, born out of his stage time, but here his ludicrous, pathetic, opportunistic, hopeful doctor, forever poised on the borderline of tragedy and comedy until he turns his own marriage proposal into a vaudeville routine, is far and away the best supporting performance in town.

Elsewhere we get Polly Adams as the unfortunate object of his affections, and Anna Livia Ryan as the young ward, Vera, whose life is almost casually ruined by Natalya's inability to sort out her romantic affairs.

What Bryden has realized is that this is a company play rather than the star vehicle through which Ingrid Bergman and Michael Redgrave used mournfully to trudge. It is also a bleak and black comedy about people who don't know what they want and don't like it when they get it, and it is the work of a writer who, working in almost constant parenthesis, is happy to go off and explore the life of a minor bystander at just the moment you expect something climactic to happen to his central figures.

As Raskin, John Hurt turns in a performance of wondrous lethargy and disavowment, so that periodically the effort even of speaking seems too much for him when finally he senses it is time to leave an affair that has never quite managed to become even that, you worry where he'll find the energy to pack. They've all got this one dead night at last.

In six years as director of the National Theatre, Richard Eyre has made very few major repertoire mistakes but "Johnny" (John) (Olivier Theatre) is certainly one of them. Originally seen on Broadway in 1942 for four nights, this is Charles MacArthur's farce about a Southern-state governor in romantic and financial difficulties, running for office on a man-of-the-people ticket.

BOOKS

WHO WE ARE: A Portrait of America Based on the Latest U.S. Census

By Sam Roberts. Illustrated. 306 pages. \$18. Times Books/Rand House.

Reviewed by Cullen Murphy

IN "Who We Are," Sam Roberts has probably done as good a job as can be done in making the results of the 1990 census accessible to the general public. He has broken the census down into sensible thematic chunks. He has spiced the data with material of other kinds: the perspectives of social history, anecdotes from scholars, government officials and ordinary people. He has provided graphics, charts and maps that are well designed and easy to comprehend. He has written his book in a style that is always professional, at times buoyant and even jaunty.

Unfortunately — and Roberts must be held exempt from blame — the term "eye-opening" does not

consistently describe the experience of reading this book. The problem lies with the navel-gazing nature of our culture. During the past few decades, Americans have become so addicted to self-assessment — the continuous monitoring of society's every vital sign — that the results of the decennial census no longer pack much of a surprise. We have been getting false estimates all along. Is there a newspaper reader unaware of the rise in the number of teenage mothers and single-parent households and poverty, the growing prevalence of mothers in the work force and of two-paycheck families, the expansion of the elderly population as a proportion of the whole, the increase in the age of the average woman at first childbirth, the trend toward greater income inequality, the influx of Hispanic and Asian immigrants, the continuing advance of the service economy, the vitality of "edge cities"?

Roberts, the urban affairs columnist for The New York Times, affixes up-to-date numbers to these and a raft of other demographic and economic phenomena and looks at

the numbers every which way, but the phenomena themselves are almost always old friends.

That said, some information does come as a surprise. About 30 percent of all households in New York State are carless (the highest percentage in the country). The median age of all the houses and apartments in the United States (26 years) is less than the median age of the people living in them (32 years). In 1990, there were 36,000 people in the United States more than 100 years old. Because of more accurate measurement of the size of lakes and ponds, and also because of coastal erosion, the size of the U.S. land mass was statistically smaller than at any time since the purchase of Alaska, in 1867. The population density of the United States is 70.3 persons per square mile, a statistic that Roberts puts into perspective with this observation: "A suburban tract with one-acre zoning and three people per house would accommodate more than 1,800 people per square mile."

The most densely populated community in America is Hoboken, New Jersey, with 25,690 people per square mile.

"Who We Are" may not always offer fresh insight, but it is a valuable book. There is something to be said for a group photograph, even if the individual faces are already familiar. The book comes with a good index, which, together with the maps and charts, makes it a friendly reference volume for anyone not interested in slogging through the annual Statistical Abstract of the United States. Moreover, there is one group of people for whom, if anecdotal reports of their state of general knowledge are to be believed, large swaths of "Who We Are" may come as revelation. I can't think of a better book to add to every high-school reading list in America.

Cullen Murphy, managing editor of The Atlantic Monthly, wrote this for The New York Times.

BEST SELLERS

The New York Times		Last Week	
Fiction		Last Week	
1	THE CELESTINE PROPHET, by James Redfield	2	5
2	ACCIDENT, by Danielle Steel	1	7
3	CLOSURE, by Michael Chabon	3	11
4	THE BRIDGES OF MADISON COUNTY, by Robert James Waller	4	86
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9	FATAL CURE, by Robin Cook	9	10
10	FAMILY BLESSINGS, by LaVonne Saunders	10	10
11	RIVER GOD, by Wilbur Smith	11	9
12	SECOND NATURE, by Alice LaPlante	12	14
13	MICHAEL'S CAPER, by Lawrence Sanders	13	6
14	RAMA REVEALED, by Arthur C. Clarke and Gentry Lee	14	6
15	LOVE, by Jonathan Kellerman	15	9
Nonfiction		Last Week	
1	EMBRACED BY THE LIGHT, by Betty J. Eadie	1	47
2	HOW WE DIE, by Sherwin B. Nuland	2	5
3	THE BOOK OF VIRTUES, by William J. Bennett	3	15
4	ZLATKA'S DIARY, by Zlata Filipovic	4	3
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6	SOUL, by Thomas Moore	6	4
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13	REENGINEERING THE CORPORATION, by Michael Hammer	13	33
14	WOMEN WHO RUN WITH THE WOLVES, by Claudia Goldstein	14	15
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Donnique Verrier has assembled and directed a sound company, taking the assignment as the hapless husband, with Valerie Durin giving a strong performance as the wife, Philippe Poty as the deceptive friend, and Catherine Therouanne as the husband's former mistress.

This fine high comedy of the Belle Epoque retains its brilliant wit and deep knowledge.

Tennessee Williams' "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof," first seen on Broadway in 1955, has been fitted out with a new French adaptation by Anne Tognetti and Claude Baignères at the Marigny's Salle Poperco. Michel Fagadau's mise-en-scene has spread Deep South witchery, and here we are again with Big Daddy (Bernard Frenson), Maggie "the Cat" (Candice Patou) and Big Ma (Claire Maurier), while Bruno Wolkowitch plays the young man who is mourning his best friend's death with a large glass of rum. Its revival is a deserved success.

Francis Huster, a matinee idol of young France, acquires himself in the title role with his customary elegance. His Hamlet is frequently fascinating, as when he breaks into "To be, or not to be," but not when he conducts a whirlwind-dervish dance to bewilder the King.

The supporting company is of the first rank with Genevieve Casile as the imposing Gertrude and Michel Amoult as the treacherous Claudius (both formerly of the Comedie-Francaise). Guy Tréhan nearly steals the evening as a hilarious Polonius and Jacques Spiesser is the eccentric Horatio.

An alert theater collective — "La Bouche d'Ombre" — has restored a famous French play to the public (at the Dix Huit Théâtre): Georges de Porto-Riche's "Amoureuse," which had its premiere at the Odéon in 1891. Porto-Riche's play illustrates that even in the most passionate affair, one loves more than

In Paris, What Makes Hamlet Mad?

By Thomas Quinn Curtiss
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Terry Hands, a British director who has staged several Shakespeare plays at the Comedie-Francaise to Parisians' satisfaction, is presenting "Hamlet" in a French translation of his own at the Théâtre Marigny on the Champs-Élysées.

It is said that Hamlet is the first modern man — so obviously he must be insane. Hands wrote in the program. One of the great Hamlets of this century, Johnstone Forbes-Robertson, believed otherwise, maintaining that Hamlet's appearance of madness is simply a ruse to misguide his enemies. Actually, the prince may have gone crazy on encountering some of Johan Ege's decor and costumes.

Here is the Denmark throne hall attempting to look like Versailles Palace, built centuries later; the players arriving at Elsinore are clad as 1880s Ibsen-Bjornson troupes; Horatio, Hamlet's faithful friend, is done up as a bespectacled clerk straight out of Chekhov, and the local population seems to have been dressed by the Salvation Army.

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Dining Out

PARIS 1st

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BEST SELLERS

This list is based on reports from more than 2,000 bookstores throughout the United States. Weeks on list are not necessarily consecutive.

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4	FIRST THINGS FIRST, by Stephen R. Levine, A. Roger Merrill and Rebecca R. Merrill	4	1

SHORT CUTS

• **MILTON NASCIMENTO**, "Angelus" (WB): The Brazilian's magic tenor voice floats, mostly ballad mode, Portuguese and English about lush strings, woodwinds and soft percussion in tandem with guests Wayne Shorter, James Taylor, Herbie Hancock, Nana Vasconcelos and Peter Gabriel. Beautifully produced substantial stuff. For repeated listening as either furniture or food (check out the fat sound on his cover of the Beatles' cover, "Hello Goodbye.")

• **CHARLIE HADEN'S** QUARTET WEST, "Always Say Goodbye" (Verve/Gitanes Jazz): Appropriate technology. The atmosphere of Raymond Chandler's '40s and '50s Los Angeles — on happy days, you could always find a parking space — is digitally sampled into a contemporary mix. Introduced by the voice of Humphrey Bogart from "The Big Sleep" ("My name is Marlowe..."), it features Stéphane Grappelli and Django Reinhardt spliced into the Quartet's version of "Oo-Ex-Tu, Mon Amour" and Chet Baker's voice ditto on "Everything Happens to Me." Fine-grained, well-tooled romanticism first and above all. The last track: Lauren Bacall: "You've forgotten one thing, Me." Bogart: "What's wrong with you?" Bacall: "Nothing you can't fix."

Mike Zwerin, IHT

Charlie Haden: Fine-grained, well-tooled romanticism.

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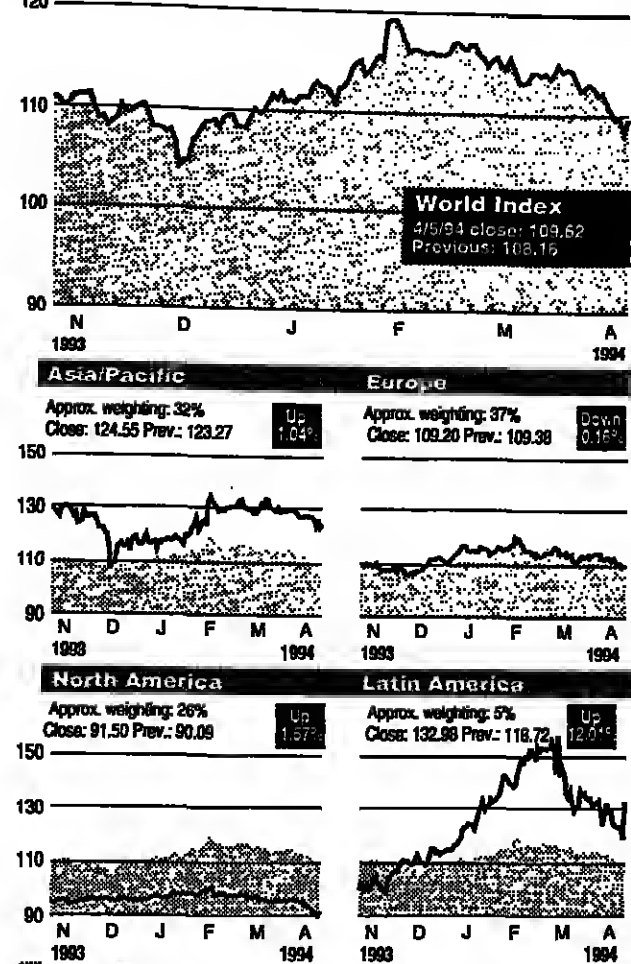
BUSINESS

International Herald Tribune, Wednesday, April 6, 1994

Page 9



THE TRIB INDEX: 109.62
International Herald Tribune World Stock Index, composed of 280 internationally investable stocks from 25 countries, compiled by Bloomberg Business News, Jan. 1, 1992 = 100.



The index tracks U.S. dollar values of stocks in Tokyo, New York, London, and other major financial centers. The index is composed of the 20 top issues in terms of market capitalization, otherwise the ten top issues are tracked.

Industrial Sectors	Tot. close	Prev. close	% change
Energy	104.01	104.58	-0.55
Utilities	128.85	118.98	+8.13
Finance	113.07	111.82	+1.12
Services	115.75	115.35	+0.35
Capital Goods	109.06	108.04	+0.94
Raw Materials	123.24	117.54	+4.85
Consumer Goods	96.17	95.05	+1.18
Miscellaneous	123.71	123.47	+0.19

For more information about the index, a booklet is available free of charge. Write to Trib Index, 181 Avenue Charles de Gaulle, 92221 Neuilly Cedex, France.

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Costly Lesson for Wall Street Whiz

Askin and Investors Find There's No Perfect Hedge

By Saul Hansell

NEW YORK — David Askin entered the small conference room at his Lexington Avenue office on Monday, March 28, to face his investors: blue-chip corporations, pension funds and wealthy families.

They had entrusted him with \$600 million in what was billed as a low-risk approach to investing in bonds backed by home mortgages. But as interest rates shot up in recent months, his two funds lost more than \$100 million.

Several dozen investors were there in person, and 20 more on the speakerphone. What they heard did not please them.

Mr. Askin said he needed \$40 million to \$50 million in capital immediately because brokerage houses were seeking money to cover the firm's losses; if the cash could not be raised, their entire investment was in jeopardy.

In the days that followed, bond prices continued to plunge, and the size of the bailout needed mushroomed to \$120 million. Then came word last Wednesday that brokerage firms were liquidating the funds' holdings in a string of fire sales. When the markets closed for the holiday weekend on Thursday, it appeared that most — if not all — of the funds had been wiped out.

Like others on Wall Street, Mr. Askin parlayed his years of experience in finance into a theory about how a small corner of the financial markets behaves.

Perhaps, it would seem in retrospect, that he came to believe too fiercely in his theory that he could invest money so cleverly that it would bring a handsome return with only a smidgen of risk.

In any case, he played too close to the edge with vast sums of borrowed money. He had so intricate and subtle a model of how his investment portfolio would behave that he forgot how crude and brutal financial markets can become when traders lose their nerve and fear takes over.

"This is not a story about a flamboyant guy putting \$1 billion on one roll of the dice," one of Mr. Askin's major investors said. "This is a real investment strategy, practiced by others,

A market-neutral strategy went terribly wrong for Granite Capital.

but it requires hard work and discipline, and it got away from this guy, and no one knows how yet."

On Monday, as the markets plunged further, investors continued to ask what went wrong. Mr. Askin remained holed up in his office, toting up the losses, trying to learn what, if anything, was left.

With the decline in the Dow Jones industrial average of around 10 percent from the high set Jan. 31, and bond prices also battered, many investors have suffered big losses. But the collapse of the Granite funds is believed to have been an isolated incident.

Mr. Askin, 43, a respected bond analyst, had worked at Drexel Burnham Lambert Inc. and Daiwa Securities Co. before going into

business on his own. His two main funds, Granite Capital and Granite Partners, promised investors 15 percent annual returns with low risk, and over the last two years they had delivered such returns.

The list of investors who had placed funds under Mr. Askin's management reportedly included such insurance companies as Capital Holding and the American International Group, foreign banks, pension funds, including that of McKinsey & Co., and charities like the Rockefeller Foundation.

But it seems that Mr. Askin pushed his strategies in their limit — using enormous leverage to buy exotic securities that cannot be readily sold for cash.

Thus, after the Federal Reserve Board increased interest rates on Feb. 4, and bond prices, which move in the opposite direction from rates, plunged, Mr. Askin's funds had no margin for error.

After his time at Drexel and Daiwa, Mr. Askin met various other firms proposing his theory of market-neutral mortgage investing, that is hedging positions so that profits could be made no matter which way the market turned.

Eventually, he was hired by Whitehead & Sterling, the firm set up mainly to manage the money of Edwin C. Whitehead, a wealthy industrialist, who started Granite Partners in 1989 with \$130 million of his own capital.

The Granite fund was originally meant to buy complex mortgage securities from the portfolios of failed savings and loan associations.

See HEDGE, Page 13

Dollar Gets a Lift From Big Rally On Wall Street

Bloomberg Business News

NEW YORK — The dollar rallied against major currencies Tuesday, rising to a four-week high against the Deutsche mark, as a rebound in stocks and bonds restored confidence in U.S. assets.

"The buck is back," said David De Rosa, director of foreign-exchange trading at Swiss Bank Corp. "There's a massive dollar-buying binge going on."

The dollar rose as high as 1.7180 DM, its highest level since March 8. It closed at 1.7145 DM, up from 1.6965 DM on Monday. The dollar, which has been particularly weak against the yen, rose to 104.335 yen from 103.145 yen.

The dollar also rose to 5.8593 French francs from 5.7958 francs, and strengthened to 1.4470 Swiss francs from 1.4250 francs. The pound fell to \$1.4640 from \$1.4665 on Tuesday.

Plunging stocks and bonds depressed the dollar last week. The rout in the bond market ended Tuesday, with the yield on the benchmark 30-year Treasury bond falling to 7.25 percent from 7.41 percent. Declining interest rates helped stocks rebound. The Dow Jones industrial average closed up \$2.06 points, at 3,675.41, after falling 3.37 percent last week.

"People became more interested in buying dollars because the stock and bond markets appeared to stabilize," said Tom Benfer, director of foreign-exchange trading at the Bank of Montreal.

It is too early to say if the dollar has turned the corner and is heading higher, said Ezra Zask, president of Ezra Zask Associates, a currency-trading fund that is based in Norwalk, Connecticut and has \$150 million under management. "But today's rally should make people reluctant to sell it aggressively."

Flows of capital into U.S. stocks and bonds pushed the dollar higher, Mr. Zask said. Those flows are important to determine exchange rates now because so many currency speculators have been "blown

out of the market" by huge losses, Mr. Zask said.

"Capital flows are driving everything right now," he said. "A lot of the speculators are on the sidelines."

Many currency speculators suffered when the dollar fell against major currencies in the first quarter of this year. George Soros, one of the premier speculators, said that his hedge funds lost \$600 million

See DOLLAR, Page 10

U.S. Bulls Take European Stocks Along for Ride

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

LONDON — Nearly every European stock market rose on Tuesday after staging a recovery that owed much to a surprise surge in share and bond prices on Wall Street.

The New York Stock Exchange surged as dealers took heart from a revival in bond prices. Wall Street regained considerable ground after the bear markets of the last several sessions.

The enthusiasm spilled over into Europe, where financial and oil shares were particularly strong.

European bond prices fell and their yields rose, however, on concerns about inflation as oil rose as much as \$1.22 a barrel, to \$14.42 following a rise in prices in New York on Monday on concern that violence in Algeria could disrupt oil supplies.

The Frankfurt market was a star performer as the DAX Index surged 1.18 percent, to 815.66, while the CAC-40 Index in Paris rose 0.88 percent, to 2,100.25. In London, the Financial Times-Stock Exchange 100-share index gained 0.97 percent, to 3,116.20.

A rising dollar, however, sent the European component of the International Herald Tribune Stock In-

See STOCKS, Page 10

MEDIA MARKETS

Bartley's Whitewater Ride

By William Glaberson

NEW YORK — Who is Robert Bartley? Before Whitewater turned the Wall Street Journal's chief of editorials into a media personality, he was already the darling of conservatives. But a headline — "Who Is Vincent Foster?" — and its aftermath have broadened his role. At 56, Robert L. Bartley, editor of the Journal, has become a star in the "liberal media" he abhors. His role: Whitewater sage.

With a new prominence that began with the editorial attack last summer on Mr. Foster, the deputy White House counsel who died on July 20 in an apparent suicide, Mr. Bartley slashes away at the administration of President Bill Clinton.

He sneers at the Democrats, Little Rock and anyone who calls the 1980s the decade of greed. Sometimes he even appears to scorn the reporters at his own newspaper.

The open secret at the Journal for years has been the discomfort such sentiments sometimes cause employees of the newspaper's news operation and the ridicule some of them apply to the paper's editorial positions.

The news division is separate from the editorial page and its employees report to a different top editor, Paul E. Steiger, the newspaper's managing editor. Mr. Steiger and Mr. Bartley report separately to Peter R. Kann, the Journal's chairman and publisher.

Some news department employees consider themselves political liberals. Some also find their news reports occasionally contradicted or undercut by their own newspaper's editorials. Whitewater has provided a new series of such opportunities for conflict.

The editorial page has sometimes heaped praise on news organizations other than the Journal for courage in pursuing Whitewater leads. The New

York Post has been especially warmly appreciated. At times, it has appeared the Journal's editorial page is insulting its own news operation by omission.

The differing approaches of the two sides of the same newspaper have begun to attract outside attention. The New Republic's recently took note of two Journal headlines from the March 14 issue that reported the start of an investigation by the Whitewater special counsel, Robert B. Fiske Jr.

A Journal news headline that day: "Fiske Gets Off to Fast Start in Whitewater Probe by Moving Forward Aggressively on All Fronts."

The editorial page headline the same day: "The Fiske Cover-Up II."

The Journal's senior news editors insist they are not insulted. But Alan Murray, the Washington bureau chief, does acknowledge that "there is this tradition of not just separation but competition — or enmity."

Mr. Bartley denies that the editorial page has tried to embarrass its own news division. But he acknowledges long-standing tension between the news and editorial sections. "There's always been this undercurrent of disagreement," he said.

Mr. Bartley, who says his Iowa upbringing in the 1950s provided a standard of values to measure current events, appears to be reveling in the role he calls spokesman for the loyal opposition. "There's a certain kind of fun that we're having again now that we had during the Carter years," Mr. Bartley said of the mood among his staff of 30 or so conservative editorial-page writers and editors.

"You get up in the morning and say, 'O.K., what are they doing now that we can criticize?'" Mr. Bartley said.

Before the current "bumbling presidency," as the Journal's editorials like to call it, the soft-spoken Mr. Bartley may have been best known among conservatives for editorials that helped es-

See EDITOR, Page 11

Comments by VW's López Investigated

Reuters

HAMBURG — State prosecutors in Hamburg on Tuesday said two sworn statements by the embattled Volkswagen executive José Ignacio López de Arriortúa in hearings last year were contradictory.

"We have determined that two sworn statements contradict one another," said Rüdiger Beger, the spokesman for the state's attorney.

"Now it is a question of how to judge this legally," he said. He was not sure if Mr. López would be charged with perjury.

The review of Mr. López's comments, made during hearings on a trade-secrets dispute between him and General Motors Corp., came because two magazines have reported that Mr. López could face charges of industrial espionage. Authorities in Darmstadt have been conducting a preliminary investigation into allegations that Mr. López and several former GM employees stole secret documents from GM and its German subsidiary, Adam Opel AG, before moving to VW last year.

David Herman, the chairman of Opel, told the daily Bild newspaper on Tuesday that he expected "charges to be pressed in the next few months in the U.S. and Germany against López for embezzlement, suppression of evidence and violating competition rules."

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grow at a healthy pace, a testament to the group's strong balance sheets, risk-averse orientation and century-old heritage.

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CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

Cross Rates				Eurocurrency Deposits				Key Money Rates			
	1994	1993	1992		1994	1993	1992		1994	1993	1992
American	1.7145	1.7145	1.7145	1-month	3 1/4%	3 1/4%	3 1/4%	U.S. dollar	1.00	1.00	1.00
British	1.6965	1.6965	1.6965	3-month	3 3/4%	3 3/4%	3 3/4%	Swiss franc	1.4640	1.4640	1.4640
French	5.7958	5.7958	5.7958	6-month	4 1/4%	4 1/4%	4 1/4%	Japanese yen	104.335	104.335	104.335
German	1.4250	1.4250	1.4250	1-year	4 3/4%	4 3/4%	4 3/4%	U.S. dollar	1.00	1.00	1.00
Italian	1.3600	1.3600	1.3600					Swiss franc	1.4640	1.4640	1.4640
Japanese	104.335	104.335	104.335					Japanese yen	104.335	104.335	104.335
Spanish	166.667	166.667	166.667					U.S. dollar	1.00	1.00	1.00
Swiss	1.4640	1.4640	1.4640					Swiss franc	1.4640	1.4640	1.4640
U.S.	1.00	1.00	1.00					Japanese yen	104.335	104.335	104.335

MARKET DIARY

STOCKS: European Shares Rise

Continued from Page 9

dex down 0.16 percent, to 109.2. The index is calculated in dollars, so declining European currencies overwhelmed the equity advances.

Interest-rate speculation in Europe centered on Germany, where investors expect the Bundesbank to lower its securities repurchase rate by several basis points Wednesday for the fifth consecutive week. The speculation, combined with hopes that the Bundesbank would lower its discount rate at its next policy

yield on Germany's 10-year Bund rose to 6.36 percent from 6.32. (Reuters, Bloomberg, AFP)

Wall Street Jumps

Stocks rallied sharply on Tuesday in a broad-based recovery, more than erasing a 43-point drop on Monday which had dragged the index to its weakest level in six months. The Associated Press reported from New York.

The Dow Jones industrial average closed at 3,675.41, up 82.06 points from Monday.

Big-volume institutional investors were the most active buyers on Tuesday, and they were concentrating their purchases on economically sensitive stocks that could be expected to rise the most during an economic recovery, traders said.

Small investors, if they were buying at all, were doing so gingerly. Volume on the New York Stock Exchange surged to more than 366.0 million shares, even higher than the heavy trading level of 342.86 million shares on Monday.

Among active issues, General Motors rose 2 1/4 to 57 1/4 and led a rise of issues sensitive to economic cycles, which suffered the most in the recent slide. GM also had its earnings estimates raised at Fitch IBCA. Another strong gainer in the sector was Caterpillar, up 3 to 116 1/4.

Woodward climbed back part of its recent plunge, rising 1 1/4 to 14 1/4. The stock has tumbled recently amid allegations of accounting irregularities.

In over-the-counter trading, Microsoft firm 3 1/4 to 87 1/4. Hancock Institutional Equity Services raised a rating on the stock saying the company was well positioned in the markets it serves and the shares are inexpensive at their current levels.

Bonds fell and their yields rose amid nervousness about the pace of falling European interest rates, economists said.

The yield on the 10-year British government bond, or gilt, rose to 7.54 percent from 7.51 percent. In France, the yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury obligation rose to 6.5 percent from 6.46 percent. The

DOLLAR: Currency Rallies, Too

Continued from Page 9

when the dollar tumbled against the yen in February.

Concern about Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa's political future helped the dollar gain against the yen. The yen fell after Japanese news services reported that Mr.

Foreign Exchange

Hosokawa was eager to resign, traders said. Mr. Hosokawa denied the reports, according to Nikkei English News.

Critics assailed Mr. Hosokawa when he failed to pass political reform legislation and could not negotiate a trade agreement with the U.S., said Amy Smith, currency-market strategist at IDEA, a consulting firm. His administration has been under fire since, she said.

"Hosokawa looks weak and vulnerable," Ms. Smith said. "Many people expect him to be out by this summer."

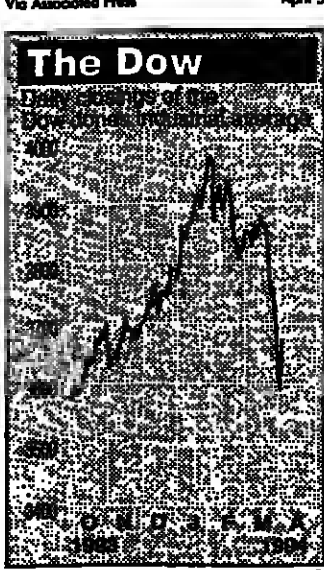
Renewed faith in American assets, as well as factors specific to Canada, helped the Canadian dol-

lar gain on Tuesday, traders said. The Canadian dollar rebounded from seven-year lows against the U.S. dollar, rising to 72.34 U.S. cents from 71.60 cents on Monday.

That Monday level represented an eight-year low for the Canadian dollar, which has been hard-hit by concerns about Ottawa's budget deficit and about inflation, Agence France-Press reported from Toronto.

Three things happened Tuesday to put a floor under the Canadian dollar. The Canadian stock market rebounded, the Bank of Canada raised its discount rate to 6.21 percent from 5.64 percent to defend the currency, and the central bank governor, Gordon Thiessen, pledged to maintain tight control over inflation. The discount rate had been raised last week, from 5 percent.

Mr. Thiessen said the best way monetary policy can contribute to maintaining Canadian living standards "is to seek to protect the value of the money we use in Canada from being eroded by inflation."



Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.

Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.

Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.

Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Vol.	High	Low	Last	Chg.

Dow Jones Averages

Open	High	Low	Last	Chg.
Indus	3675.41	3675.41	3675.41	+82.06
Transp.	109.2	109.2	109.2	+0.16
Comp	129.11	129.11	129.11	+0.01
Vol.	367.54	367.54	367.54	+82.06
Comp	129.11	129.11	129.11	+0.01

Standard & Poor's Indexes

High	Low	Close	Chg.
Indus	3675.41	3675.41	+82.06
Transp.	109.2	109.2	+0.16
Comp	129.11	129.11	+0.01
Vol.	367.54	367.54	+82.06
Comp	129.11	129.11	+0.01

NYSE Indexes

High	Low	Close	Chg.
Indus	3675.41	3675.41	+82.06
Transp.	109.2	109.2	+0.16
Comp	129.11	129.11	+0.01
Vol.	367.54	367.54	+82.06
Comp	129.11	129.11	+0.01

NASDAQ Indexes

High	Low	Close	Chg.
Indus	3675.41	3675.41	+82.06
Transp.	109.2	109.2	+0.16
Comp	129.11	129.11	+0.01
Vol.	367.54	367.54	+82.06
Comp	129.11	129.11	+0.01

AMEX Stock Index

High	Low	Close	Chg.
Indus	3675.41	3675.41	+82.06
Transp.	109.2	109.2	+0.16
Comp	129.11	129.11	+0.01
Vol.	367.54	367.54	+82.06
Comp	129.11	129.11	+0.01

Dow Jones Bond Averages

High	Low	Close	Chg.
Indus	3675.41	3675.41	+82.06
Transp.	109.2	109.2	+0.16
Comp	129.11	129.11	+0.01
Vol.	367.54	367.54	+82.06
Comp	129.11	129.11	+0.01

NYSE Diary

High	Low	Close	Chg.
Indus	3675.41	3675.41	+82.06
Transp.	109.2	109.2	+0.16
Comp	129.11	129.11	+0.01
Vol.	367.54	367.54	+82.06
Comp	129.11	129.11	+0.01

AMEX Diary

High	Low	Close	Chg.
Indus	3675.41	3675.41	+82.06
Transp.	109.2	109.2	+0.16
Comp	129.11	129.11	+0.01
Vol.	367.54	367.54	+82.06
Comp	129.11	129.11	+0.01

NASDAQ Diary

High	Low	Close	Chg.
Indus	3675.41	3675.41	+82.06
Transp.	109.2	109.2	+0.16
Comp	129.11	129.11	+0.01
Vol.	367.54	367.54	+82.06
Comp	129.11	129.11	+0.01

For investment information

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every Saturday in the HT

EUROPEAN FUTURES

High	Low	Last	Settle	Chg.
Indus	3675.41	3675.41	3675.41	+82.06
Transp.	109.2	109.2	109.2	+0.16
Comp	129.11	129.11	129.11	+0.01
Vol.	367.54	367.54	367.54	+82.06
Comp	129.11	129.11	129.11	+0.01

Metals

High	Low	Last	Settle	Chg.
Indus	3675.41	3675.41	3675.41	+82.06
Transp.	109.2	109.2	109.2	+0.16
Comp	129.11	129.11	129.11	+0.01
Vol.	367.54	367.54	367.54	+82.06
Comp	129.11	129.11	129.11	+0.01

Financial

High	Low	Last	Settle	Chg.
Indus	3675.41	3675.41	3675.41	+82.06
Transp.	109.2	109.2	109.2	+0.16
Comp	129.11	129.11	129.11	+0.01
Vol.	367.54	367.54	367.54	+82.06
Comp	129.11	129.11	129.11	+0.01

3-MONTH EURO DOLLARS (LIBOR)

High	Low	Last	Settle	Chg.
Indus	3675.41	3675.41	3675.41	+82.06
Transp.	109.2	109.2	109.2	+0.16
Comp	129.11	129.11	129.11	+0.01
Vol.	367.54	367.54	367.54	+82.06
Comp	129.11	129.11	129.11	+0.01

3-MONTH EURO DOLLARS (LIBOR)

High	Low	Last	Settle	Chg.
Indus	3675.41	3675.41	3675.41	+82.06
Transp.	109.2	109.2	109.2	+0.16
Comp	129.11	129.11	129.11	+0.01
Vol.	367.54	367.54	367.54	+82.06
Comp	129.11	129.11	129.11	+0.01

Tuesday's Closing
Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

(Continued)

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ALFRED BEE

مكتبة الأحياء

Malaysian Finance Chief Denies Link to Losses

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
KUALA LUMPUR — Malaysia's finance minister, Anwar Ibrahim, sought Tuesday to absolve himself from blame over the central bank's two years of hefty losses from foreign currency trading, saying it was due to misjudgment at the bank.
 "It was a serious error in judgment," said Mr. Anwar, who is also deputy prime minister.
 The political opposition is pressing him to resign under the principle of ministerial accountability, although Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamad appears little inclined to lay blame at his deputy's door.
 Mr. Anwar said that he was told 18 months ago that Bank Negara, Malaysia's central bank, was losing money on international currency markets. He then ordered the bank to cease trading in forward foreign-exchange contracts, he said.
 "My policy instructions were very clear," Mr. Anwar said. "As far back as in 1992, I had told the bank not to trade excessively in reserves."
 Bank Negara, long known as a swashbuckling player on currency markets, admitted on Thursday it lost 5.7 billion ringgit (\$2.28 billion) from foreign transactions last year.
 Governor Jaffar Hussain resigned after assuming full responsibility for the losses, which followed 9.3 billion ringgit in trading losses in 1992.
 The cabinet is to meet Wednesday to discuss the losses, but it is not known whether Mr. Jaffar's successor will be named.
 Mr. Anwar said the bank incurred hefty losses last year because it was adhering to his instructions to unwind and close all forward and long currency positions.
 Bank Negara has since banned all forward deals and is trading currency only on a spot basis.
 The size of its deals now are only about 10 percent of the transactions of between \$500 million and \$2 billion it used to execute until early 1993, traders said.
 Bank Negara bank is still fairly active in markets such as New York, though its presence in Singapore — its past playground — has declined sharply in the past year.
 Bank Negara is probably less ac-

tive in Singapore now because it is too closely monitored for its comfort, dealers said.
 One former official of the central bank warned that limiting trading to spot deals "doesn't mean no losses." In fact, some of Bank Negara's forward-related losses were bad spot positions that had been rolled over, dealers said.
 But Mr. Mahathir, who was overseas when the fiasco unfolded, said over the weekend that the losses would not weaken Malaysia's financial position.
 "On the whole, we made a profit, and our losses actually came from profits made in foreign dealings in preceding years," he said. "If that is not the case, how can we have a strong reserve of 70 billion ringgit, which can sustain the nation's imports for up to eight months?"
 "I cannot just pick on the year when we record losses without taking into consideration the years we make profits," the prime minister said. "I think that would be unfair."
 (AFP, Knight-Ridder)

Investors Rebel Against Direction Of China Vanke

Reuters
SHANGHAI — Rebellious shareholders have turned on one of China's publicly traded companies, signaling a wider revolt against management excesses as stock prices slide.
 China Vanke Co., which has catapulted from a sleepy office-equipment importer to a large real estate and stock concern in just a few years, is fighting a securities house that is trying to engineer a boardroom coup.
 On Tuesday, the two sides took their battle to the Shanghai Securities News. Vanke management ran a front-page advertisement hinting at legal action and the brokerage, A & J Securities, defiantly proclaimed itself a champion of neglected shareholders.
 The company has issued class B shares to foreign investors and class A shares to domestic buyers.
 From its base in the Shenzhen Special Economic Zone, the company has pursued the real estate boom up the coast to Shanghai, Qingdao and other cities, developing luxury residential projects.
 When it raided a Shanghai company last year, Vanke gained an image as a tough corporate player — a style reflected by top managers who surround themselves by young aides in double-breasted suits and dark glasses.
 But as Vanke flexed its muscles, its share price languished. Its class B shares have rarely risen above their issue price.
 Shareholders wondered whether the company was being run by professional managers with a long-term plan or by mavericks out for a quick profit.
 Questions about Vanke's management style exploded in public last week, when A & J Securities called a news conference to demand a company restructuring.
 A & J, saying it was a proxy for four shareholders owning 10.73 percent of Vanke's equity, demanded the replacement of 10 to 15 members of the 14-member board and a retreat to its core business. One of the four shareholders, Shenzhen New Generation Industry Co., later distanced itself from the attack and threw its weight behind the board.
 In its advertisement on Tuesday, Vanke claimed that rebels held a mere 3.17 percent of the company.
 Nevertheless, brokers said the unprecedented boardroom challenge was a warning to many other listed companies that have followed Vanke's erratic profit path. With the Shenzhen and Shanghai stock markets slumping, investors have started to look above the bottom line. The Shanghai A-share index is now at its lowest level since last year and its Shenzhen counterpart is a deeper slump.
 B-share investors, unimpressed by a string of average corporate results this year, are spooked by fears of national inflation and are in a generally gloomy mood because of a steep slide in Hong Kong share prices.

Japan Posts Small Rise In Surplus

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches
TOKYO — Japan's trade surplus edged up to a record in February, but the small rise from 12 months earlier indicated that export growth has stopped, a development that would help the government in its relations with the United States and other industrial countries.
 The current account surplus, the wide measure of trade in goods and services, edged up 0.1 percent, to \$11.94 billion, from \$11.93 billion in February 1993. The surplus actually declined in yen terms, reported by the government as 1.27 trillion yen in February, down 12 percent from 1.42 trillion yen a year earlier.
 Economists said the yen figures were not widely followed, but they illustrated the so-called J-curve effect. Because the yen has been rising in value, largely a result of trade tensions between Japan and the United States, the dollar amount of exports rose even though fewer units were shipped. The J-curve effect predicts that the rising cost of Japanese products will eventually reduce demand and thus unit shipments.
 Whether this will happen was a subject of debate.
 "There are no clear signs that the surplus will decrease from this given the slow economic recovery in Japan," an analyst at an American securities firm said. "The surplus will not start falling until the Japanese economy emerges from the current long-lasting recession."
 But Mineko Sasaki-Smith of Morgan Stanley Securities Japan said: "It's a positive sign. The surplus is on the verge of turning a corner toward stability and gradual decline."
 The long-term capital balance, which measures direct investment, trade credits, loans and securities transactions, posted a record surplus of \$17.5 billion, reversing a deficit of \$8.4 billion a year earlier.
 The main factor behind the record surplus was foreign buying of Japanese stocks which hit a record of \$11.5 billion, surpassing the previous record of \$10.6 billion the previous month.
 (Reuters, Bloomberg, AP, AFP)

Investor's Asia			
Hong Kong	Singapore	Tokyo	
Hang Seng	Straits Times	Nikkei 225	
13000	250	2000	
12000	240	1900	
11000	230	1800	
10000	220	1700	
9000	210	1600	
8000	200	1500	
7000	190	1400	
6000	180	1300	
5000	170	1200	
4000	160	1100	
3000	150	1000	
2000	140	900	
1000	130	800	
0	120	700	
1993	1994	1993	1994
Exchange	Index	Index	Index
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	Closed	9,028.91
Singapore	Straits Times	Closed	2,094.12
Sydney	ASX 100	Closed	2,058.10
Tokyo	Nikkei 225	Closed	14,122.22
Kuala Lumpur	Composite	Closed	820.34
Bangkok	SET	Closed	1,193.97
Seoul	Composite	Closed	980.47
Taipei	Weighted Price	Closed	2,308.87
Manila	PSE	Closed	1,068.70
Jakarta	Stock Index	Closed	435.29
New Zealand	NZSE 40	Closed	2,045.58
Bombay	National Index	Closed	1,859.58

Very briefly:

- Japan's Finance Ministry said net purchases of Japanese bonds by foreign investors totaled 776.0 billion yen (\$7.5 billion) in February, the highest on record, as government bonds in other markets suffered losses.
- Rover Japan Ltd. is cutting car retail prices by an average 12.7 percent, citing falling production costs and the strong yen.
- Mitsui Petrochemical Industries Ltd. is setting up a \$130 million venture with Amoco Chemical Corp. to make raw materials for polyester textile and plastic bottles in Indonesia.
- Bank of Thailand said Japan was the largest foreign direct investor in Thailand last year, at 9.3 billion baht (\$368 million); the United States, with 7.7 billion baht, fell to second place; a bank official said the increase in Japanese investment was mostly due to the rising value of the yen.
- PT Indocement Tjagojaya, Indonesia's biggest cement maker, said net profit fell 5 percent, to 312.4 billion rupiah (\$147 million), in 1993; a broker blamed the service of debt incurred from acquisitions.
- PetroVietnam, the state oil company, plans to begin delivering natural gas by pipeline from the offshore Bach Ho oil field to a power station in Vung Tau by October, Vietnam News reported.

India Assails Trade Barriers

Reuters
NEW DELHI — Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao of India said Tuesday that Asian and Pacific countries should guard against moves by the developed world to use environmental and social concerns to set up trade barriers.
 Mr. Rao issued the warning at a meeting of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, a body that represents more than half the world population.
 "While developing countries and developed countries alike must share action to deal with genuine social and environmental concerns, we should not countenance any moves to put these concerns on the trade agenda," he said.
 "Legitimate concern for environmental preservation and upgrading should not, however, be made an alibi for raising protectionist trade barriers," he said.
 Developing countries have expressed growing concern in recent months over international efforts led by the United States to look at countries' records on human rights and the environment as part of trade negotiations.
 Mr. Rao said environmental concerns had become inseparable from development but appealed to industrialized countries to appreciate the desire of the developing world to catch up with them. "The need of the times is for cooperation, not confrontation."
 Mr. Rao also said he hoped fresh impediments to free trade would not come up before the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade agreement is signed in Morocco next month.
 Leaders of the Group of 15 developing countries meeting in New Delhi last month insisted that they would reject non-tariff barriers in the agreement. They also said that they would reject a U.S.-sponsored move on labor standards, including a proposal that would effectively increase wages in developing countries, as well as the inclusion of human rights and environmental conditions in the agreement.

The discontent portends wider disappointment with Chinese corporate management.

day, Vanke claimed that rebels held a mere 3.17 percent of the company.
 Nevertheless, brokers said the unprecedented boardroom challenge was a warning to many other listed companies that have followed Vanke's erratic profit path. With the Shenzhen and Shanghai stock markets slumping, investors have started to look above the bottom line. The Shanghai A-share index is now at its lowest level since last year and its Shenzhen counterpart is a deeper slump.
 B-share investors, unimpressed by a string of average corporate results this year, are spooked by fears of national inflation and are in a generally gloomy mood because of a steep slide in Hong Kong share prices.

HEDGE: A Wall Street Whiz and His Investors Relearn Some Old Lessons

Continued from Page 9
 tions that were being unloaded by Resolution Trust Corp.
 After Mr. Whitehead's death in 1992, his heirs wanted to reduce their investment but the complex securities could not be sold quickly. Instead, Whitehead/Stratton was sold to Mr. Askin and renamed Askin Capital.
 Mr. Askin is a specialist in analyzing the value of collateralized mortgage obligations, or CMOs, among the world's most complex securities. At their core are bundles of home loans that have been packaged together by mortgage bankers and then sold to investors.
 Wall Street firms can divide a pool of mortgages into three dozen separate securities — some conservative and others highly speculative.
 Mr. Askin's strategy took advantage of the fact that some of these mortgage-backed securities are intended to increase in value as interest rates rise. That is the opposite of most bonds.
 Mr. Askin figured that if he bought both types of bonds, he could earn interest on both, yet be market neutral — largely immune from interest-rate moves.
 In theory, a market-neutral portfolio should be less volatile than one tied to market movements. In fact, other funds that invest in mortgage-backed securities ostensibly with strategies similar to those of Mr. Askin say they have made money this year.
 Mr. Askin's track record, short as it was, seemed to support his claim of high return with low risk, and his funds grew from about \$200 million in the beginning of 1993 to \$600 million in February.
 His strategy appeared to work relatively well for a while, even as interest rates bottomed out last fall and then started to climb.
 On March 10, Mr. Askin sent a letter to investors saying that the funds were down 1.7 percent in February. "That leaves returns above many other investment strategies," he wrote. And as late as March 16, Mr. Askin told Capital Holding executives that he thought the funds would be up in March, Mr. Tumbler said.
 But in reality, things were out so rosy. As uncertainty about interest rates grew, the entire market for sophisticated mortgage-backed securities dried up. So prices fell on all Mr. Askin's securities, even those that were supposed to rise as interest rates did.
 "There has been no liquidity, no bids for four to five weeks," Mr. Askin said in an interview

last week, calling the prices he was quoted by dealers "hysterical."
 Mr. Askin's choice, when confronted with these prices, was perhaps the most significant cause of his downfall. When he compiled his February report to investors, he did not use the prices quoted by brokerage firms in valuing the portfolio. Instead he used his own estimate of what a fair value would be for the securities — an unusual but not unheard-of practice.
 Mr. Askin was betting that prices would revert to those called for in his mathematical models. But by March 23, he was losing the bet. On that day he cut short a vacation in Florida and flew to New York to face a series of margin calls, as brokers' demands for loan payments are known.
 The prices quoted for the securities in his funds kept falling, and several brokerage firms simultaneously demanded more money.
 Some firms, which had required Mr. Askin to post a margin deposit in cash of 10 percent of the securities purchased, raised the percentage to 15 or 20 percent, investors said. This, combined with the falling value of the positions, created an accelerating demand for money.
 Only two days later, after the margin calls began to eat away at the value of the fund significantly, did Mr. Askin tell investors, through a fax, that there was a problem.
 He disclosed that his funds had lost more than 20 percent of their value in February — not the 1-plus percent he had previously reported.
 By the time the investors gathered the following Monday, there was a far greater problem than margin calls. Financial specialists familiar with the portfolio say the funds had become dangerously unhedged, and would lose value quickly if rates kept rising — as they did.
 There is a substantial disagreement as to why the funds were so longer market neutral.
 Mr. Askin's explanation is that as he had to sell securities to raise the cash for the margin calls, and the only securities that were saleable were the ones that were increasing in value.
 But some mortgage-backed securities dealers

who saw Mr. Askin's investments question whether his hedging strategy was constructed properly.
 They suggest that some of the securities that were meant to appreciate as rates rose, were actually the kind that reverse direction and start falling in value if the rate increases continue, as they have.
 Some investors are also questioning whether Mr. Askin, in fact, chose to be unhedged, betting that interest rates would fall.
 While other investors were deciding whether to add more funds, the Rockefeller Foundation and two other investors who had separate accounts managed by Mr. Askin opted to put up more money — equal to an additional 30 percent of their invested capital — to meet the margin calls.
 But first they dismissed Mr. Askin, and hired a new manager for their investments.
 The other investors, however, could not reach agreement. Their outside advisers — Trust Co. of the West, a large money management firm, and Clinton Group, another investment partnership with a market-neutral mortgage strategy — were having trouble pricing the portfolio. Then brokers started selling Mr. Askin's holdings.
 Mr. Askin is bitter about the experience. "We were being threatened a lot," he said. "Some dealers sold our positions, but did not give us a lot of details. They forced our hands and made us walk off the plank."
 The brokers were afraid that the value of their collateral would disappear and they would face huge losses.
 In fact, however, when the brokers auctioned off Granite's holdings Wednesday and Thursday, the prices they received were higher than they had expected.
 Yet now, as Mr. Askin sweeps up the remains of his business, and as the investors hire lawyers for the expected lawsuits, everybody involved is considering what lessons have been learned.
 Most of them are variations on the simple truths that successful people often think they can transcend. For one, sophisticated strategies do not always work. And there is no replacement for a cushion of liquidity.
 More simply perhaps, investors say that they should have figured that something was wrong with his promise of a 15 percent return with no risk.
 "Maybe this sounds too easy to say now," one dazed investor said. "If it looks too good to be true, maybe it is."

Australian Market at Lows

Reuters
SYDNEY — The Australian stock market on Tuesday hit its lowest level this year, reflecting rising bond yields.
 The All Ordinaries index closed 3.1 points down, at 2,050.0, and is 12.8 percent below its all-time peak of 2,350.1 on Feb. 3. The market hit a four-month low of 2,009.8 points in early trading Tuesday.
 The yield on the benchmark September 2004 Commonwealth bond rose 27 basis points, to close at 8.22 percent, up from around 6.5 percent in early February.
 The equity market "should be another 100 to 200 points off, given where the bond yields are," said Hugh Dougherty, head of research at BT Securities. But Winston Sammut, associate director at BZW Investments Australia, said stocks had already had their biggest falls.

LEICOM FUND SICAV

20, Boulevard Emmanuel Servais
 L-2535 Luxembourg

AVIS AUX ACTIONNAIRES

Messieurs les actionnaires sont convoqués par le présent avis à l'ASSEMBLEE GENERALE ORDINAIRE DES ACTIONNAIRES qui se tiendra au siège social à Luxembourg le 25 avril 1994 à 15 h 30, avec l'ordre du jour suivant :

ORDRE DU JOUR

- Rapport de gestion du Conseil d'Administration;
- Rapport du Réviseur d'Entreprises;
- Adoption des comptes de l'exercice au 31 Décembre 1993;
- Affectation du résultat;
- Décharge aux administrateurs et au Réviseur d'Entreprises;
- Nomination des organes sociaux :
 - Réélection des administrateurs sortants, à l'exception de Monsieur Olivier MAUMUS et G.P.A. - VIE PARIS, représentée par Monsieur Jean-Philippe THIERRY, qui démissionnent;
 - Ratification de la nomination de Monsieur Jean-Philippe THIERRY, en tant qu'administrateur à titre personnel, et celle de Monsieur Donat BRANCER, en remplacement de Monsieur Olivier MAUMUS;
 - Réélection du Réviseur d'Entreprises.

Les résolutions des actionnaires lors de l'Assemblée Générale Ordinaire seront votées à une majorité simple des actionnaires présents et votants.

Chaque action a un droit de vote.

Tout actionnaire peut voter par mandataire.

Pour la société,

BANQUE DE GESTION EDMOND DE ROTHSCHILD LUXEMBOURG
 20, Boulevard Emmanuel Servais
 L-2535 Luxembourg

ALFRED BERG NORDEN

Société d'Investissement à Capital Variable

Registered Office:
 L-1528 Luxembourg, 5, Boulevard de la Foire
 R.C. Luxembourg B 26149

Shareholders are invited to attend the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS which will be held at 5, Boulevard de la Foire, Luxembourg on April 15, 1994 at 10.30 a.m. with the following agenda:

- Reports of the Board of Directors and of the Auditors.
- Approval of the financial statements as of December 31, 1993.
- Acceptance of the Directors recommendation to pay no dividend for the year ended December 31, 1993.
- Discharge of the Directors and of the Auditors in respect of the carrying out of their duties during the fiscal year ended December 31, 1993.
- Election of the Directors and of the Auditors.
- Miscellaneous business.

NOTES:

- Holders of bearer shares may vote at the Meeting:
- in person by producing at the Meeting either share certificates or a certificate of deposit issued by their bank which will be issued to them against deposit of their share certificates
 - by proxy by completing the form of proxy which will be made available to them against deposit of the share certificates as aforesaid.
- Share certificates so deposited will be retained until the Meeting or any adjournment thereof has been concluded.
- The Board of Directors

ALFRED BERG SICAV

Société d'Investissement à Capital Variable

Registered Office:
 L-1528 Luxembourg, 5, Boulevard de la Foire
 R.C. Luxembourg B 26150

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- The Board of Directors

Annual figures 1993

With a 10.9% increase in net profit to NLG 2,029 million and strong growth in shareholders' equity, 1993 was a good year for ING Group.

With handsome results particularly from banking and life insurance operations profit before tax was NLG 2,821 million. This is an increase of NLG 435 million (+18.2%) compared with 1992.

The results have been determined on the basis of the revised accounting rules introduced by ING Group with effect from 1993.

The figures for 1992 have been restated on the basis of the new accounting rules to facilitate comparison.

Amounts in Dutch guilders (in millions)	1993	1992	% Change
Results before tax	2,821	2,386	+ 18.2
Net profit	2,029	1,829	+ 10.9
(in guilders)			
Net profit per share	8.01	7.50	+ 6.8
Dividend per share	3.50	3.19	+ 9.7
(in billions)			
Total assets	339.4	322.9	+ 5.1
Investments	132.1	127.7	+ 3.4
Bank lending	144.9	138.1	+ 4.9
Group capital base	22.6	16.7	+ 35.2

ING GROUP

The annual report will appear on April 18th, 1994 and can be obtained at the following address:
 Internationale Nederlanden Group, P.O. Box 810, 1000 AV Amsterdam, Holland.
 Tel. (+31) 20 541 54 60, fax: (+31) 20 541 54 51.

April 5, 1994

d Korea.....	5	14.46	w Fairfield Int'l Ltd.....	5	222.45
NEW TIGER SEL FUNO			w Fairfield Sentry Ltd.....	5	321.95
d Mann Koen.....	5	55.61	— Fairfield Securities Ltd.....	5	85.80

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fax Simon OSBORN at (33-1) 46 37 21 33.

**FOR FURTHER
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Brenda Hagerty
International Herald Tribune
3 Long Acre, London WC2E 9JH, England
Tel: (44 71) 836 4802
Fax: (44 71) 836 0717

SPORTS

Despite Record 3 Homers, Off Gooden, Cubs Still Lose

The Associated Press
Find a player with just five home runs in 280 big-league at-bats, give him a strong wind blowing out at friendly Wrigley Field, and what do you get?

How about a major league record: three homers in his first three at-bats of the season? Say hello to Karl Rhodes, who did the swinging while Hillary Clinton did the singing.

Still, it was a sad song for the Chicago Cubs, who couldn't manage to beat the New York Mets.

"I have to tell you I don't try to hit home runs," he said after joining George Bell as the only player

NL ROUNDUP

ever to hit three homers on opening day. "I go up there and try to hit line drives."

He hit three off New York's Dwight Gooden, but the Mets had too much offense of their own. They opened the season Monday with a 12-8 victory, spoiling the first lady's day.

Rhodes had opposite-field homers in the first, third and fifth innings, and Cubs fans littered the outfield with bats after his third.

"I saw the bats flying on the field, and I was told it was like a bat riot in hockey," the 25-year-old outfielder said. "I couldn't believe it. But if you know me, you know I'm low-key."

The first lady, who threw out the first ball for her favorite team, was on-key when she and Chicago broadcaster Harry Caray — starting his 50th season behind the mike — harmonized in his ritual seventh-inning singing of "Take Me Out to the Ball Game."

"It was typical Wrigley Field," said Gooden, whose career record against the Cubs grew to 27-4 despite giving up seven runs on 11 hits in 5 2/3 innings. Gooden didn't get to face Rhodes — who also walked and got a single — a fourth time. Asked whether he had wanted to, Gooden laughed and said, "No, not in that situation, with the Cubs at home."

Jose Vizcaino, traded last week from the Cubs to the Mets for pitcher Anthony Young, and Todd Hundley hit consecutive home runs in the third inning off Mike Morgan. Jeff Kent, who had four hits, led off the New York fourth with a home run. Gooden had a bases-loaded single in a three-run fifth.

Reds 5, Cardinals 4: Ower Marge Schott, who refused to attend Cincinnati's loss to St. Louis on Sunday night because the game was played on Easter, saw the team get its first victory on a 10th-inning home run from Kevin Mitchell.

When the sports television network ESPN proposed a Sunday night season opener, Schott volunteered. But when she realized the date was Easter, she was appalled. "You don't mess with a holy day," she said.

After Hector Carrasco pitched out of a bases-loaded threat in the top of the 10th, Mitchell homered off Roh Murphy.

John Smiley pitched five shutout innings, and Cincinnati got two-run homers from Reggie Sanders and Joe Oliver. But the bullpen failed in the eighth.

Giants 8, Pirates 0: Matt Williams didn't seem to miss former teammate Will Clark as he homered in his first two at-bats against Zane Smith and finished with five RBIs.

That made it easy for John Burkett, who limited Pittsburgh to five hits in seven innings as San Francisco opened the season before 58,077 people at Candlestick Park. Last season, Williams had a career-high 38 homers and 110 RBIs batting behind Clark, who left the Giants to sign with the Texas Rangers.

Taking over for Clark, Todd Benzing marked his debut at first base with a two-run triple off Ravelo Manzanillo in the fifth.

Astros 6, Expos 5: Mitch Williams was the Wild Thing again. But his new team got him off the hook after he walked home two runs in the 12th inning.

Houston's Jeff Bagwell singled in one run, and Ken Caminiti hit a decisive two-run double at the Astrodome.

Williams, who was pitching for Philadelphia when he finished 1993 by giving up the World Series-ending home run to Toronto's Joe Carter, relieved to start the 12th with the score tied at 3. After getting two outs and allowing two hits, Williams walked three straight batters.

Braves 4, Padres 1: Two-time NL Cy Young Award winner Greg Maddux allowed seven hits in eight innings, and Deion Sanders and rookie Ryan Klesko hit homers as visiting Atlanta won its first game as a member of the NL East after three straight NL West crowns.

The Padres, who lost 101 games in 1993, got off to a bumbling start: The game was delayed about 15 minutes to accommodate fans stuck in ticket lines because of a computer crash. Four-time NL batting champion Tooy Gwynn left after four innings with a strained left calf. And pitching ace Andy Benes was the loser.

Phillies 12, Rockies 6: Snow flurries created a chilly backdrop for visiting Philadelphia, but the defending NL champions' bats were hot enough to handle Colorado.

Getting a homer and four RBIs from Mariano Duncan, the Phillies began their title defense by using an eight-run eighth inning to win before 72,470 at Mile High Stadium — the fourth-largest opening-day crowd in baseball history.

It was the Rockies' second-largest crowd, trailing only the 80,227 for their home opener last season. The Rockies set a baseball record by drawing 4,483,350 people in 1993.

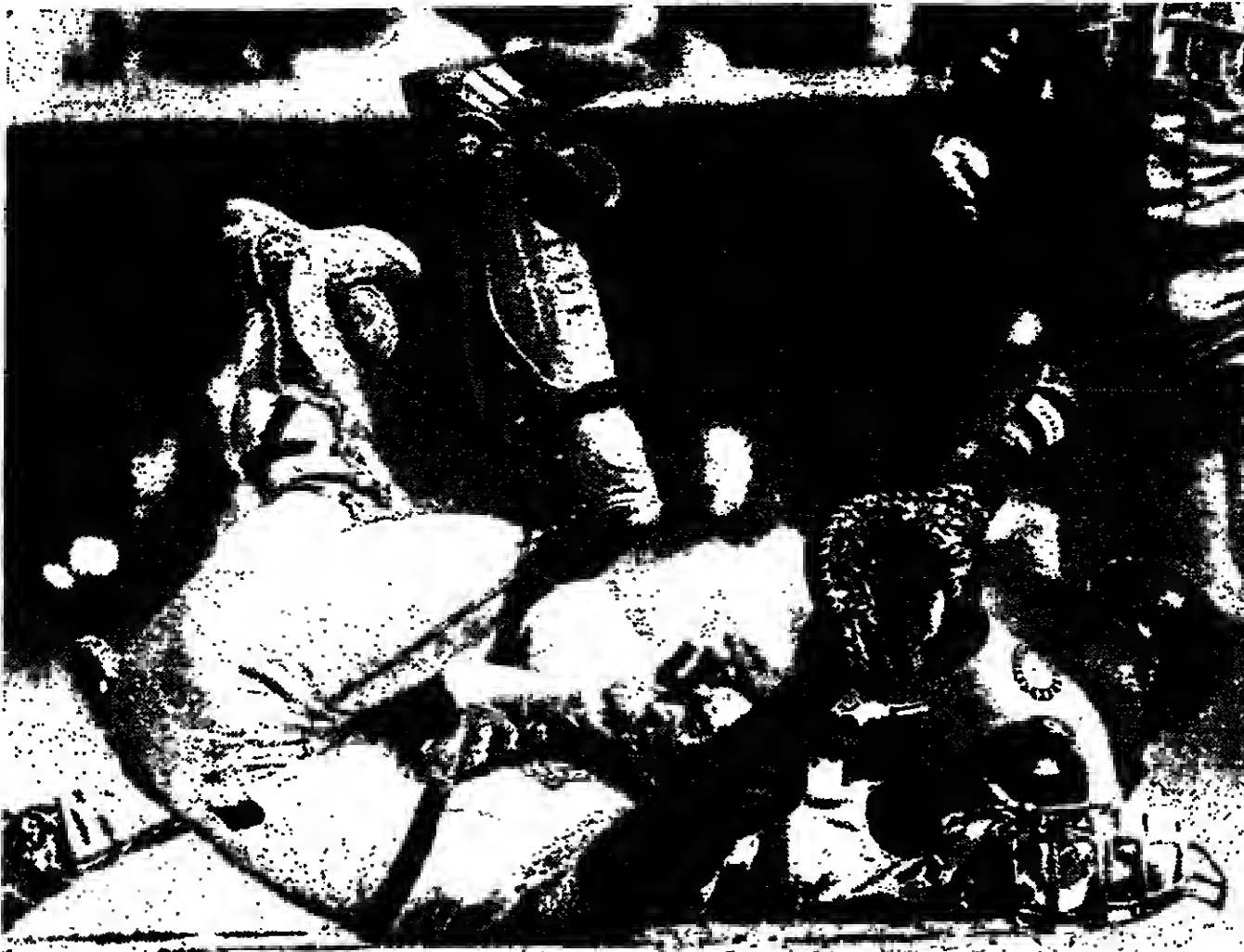
After Andres Galarraga — who also homered — and Joe Girardi had RBI singles in the seventh to put the Rockies ahead, 6-4, the Phillies rallied on just two hits, six walks and left fielder Howard Johnson's three-run error.

Darryl Strawberry, on the verge of being released by the Dodgers after failing to show for up for Sunday's game, told team officials that he had a drug and alcohol problem and would enter a treatment center Tuesday, the Los Angeles Times reported.

In an emotional meeting, Strawberry asked the Dodgers for help in seeking treatment. They put him on the disabled list on the eve of the 1994 season opener at Dodger Stadium.

"I would say we were close" to releasing him, said Fred Claire, the team's executive vice president.

Claire said that even with Strawberry's disclosure, the club could have released him. But after meeting with Strawberry and his wife, Charisse, and his attorney, Bob Shapiro, Claire changed course.



Ken Griffey Jr., scoring in the eighth, bowled over Sandy Alomar Jr. before the catcher and his Indians ended up on top in the 11th.



Karl Rhodes hit three straight home runs off Dwight Gooden.

Feller Frets, Then Throws His Best Hex

New York Times Service

CLEVELAND — For 54 years, Bob Feller has sweated through each opening day, waiting to see if some pitcher would repeat a feat only he has ever accomplished: throwing a no-hitter in the first game of the season.

Never was that vigil more excruciating than Monday, as Feller watched Seattle's Randy Johnson come within five outs of duplicating the feat against the Cleveland Indians, the team Feller once pitched for.

Feller, 75, was among the 41,459 fans watching for seven and one-third as Johnson threatened to nudge his way into the record book alongside the

Cleveland legend, whose opening-day no-hitter in 1940 against the Chicago White Sox in the old Comiskey Park was the first of three no-hitters Feller pitched in his Hall of Fame career.

That threat ended when Sandy Alomar Jr., the Indians catcher, hit a clean, one-out single to right.

"I was concerned, but I put the hex on him," said Feller, who was in position to witness the effort by Johnson because he had been invited to participate in first-ball ceremonies before the inaugural game at Jacobs Field.

Asked if he was sweating out the no-hit bid, Feller said, "I have ever since 1940 because it's about the only record I've got left."



Harry Caray, the Cubs' announcer, and Hillary Clinton belted out "Take Me Out to the Ball Game."

Blue Jays' Opener Painful for Chisox

The Associated Press

On a day when Randy Johnson almost made pitching history at new Jacobs Field in Cleveland, Carlos Delgado was a big hit at the SkyDome in Canada.

Delgado launched a 450-foot (134-meter) drive off a window of the Hard Rock Cafe in right field, leading the Toronto Blue Jays over the Chicago White Sox, 7-3, on opening day Monday.

"He was kind of protecting the plate with two strikes on him," teammate Paul Molitor joked. "Wait 'til he really gets a hold of one."

Molitor, the World Series MVP, and the rest of the Blue Jays got their championship rings in a pregame ceremony. Then Toronto put on another quality show.

Roberto Alomar hit a three-run homer with two out in the seventh off Cy Young Award winner Jack McDowell for a 4-2 lead. In the eighth, Delgado and Ed Sprague hit consecutive home runs.

"There's no doubt Robbie's hit was the big one," Molitor said. "It gave us the lead. But the guys are still talking about the one Carlos hit."

Delgado, a converted catcher playing left field, joined shortstop Alex Gonzalez as rookie starters for the champions. Even with a new lineup, Toronto trounced McDowell.

He was 0-2 with a 10.00 ERA against the Blue Jays in last October's AL playoffs. He is 3-7 in regular-season games against Toronto. "That exact team hasn't been to-

gether for my six years," McDowell said. "So it's nothing other than chance."

Frank Thomas, the AL MVP, went 2-for-4 and scored twice for Chicago. The White Sox, who won the AL West last season, lost their first game as members of the reconfigured AL Central.

Orioles 6, Royals 3: Rafael Palmeiro homered in his Baltimore debut and newcomer Lee Smith got the last out for a save as the Orioles won at home.

Mike Mussina was the winner.

AL ROUNDUP

allowing one run on two hits in eight innings, before 47,549 fans, the largest crowd for a regular-season game at Camden Yards.

Mike Devereaux homered for the Orioles off loser Kevin Appier and ninth-place batter Jeffrey Hammonds added an RBI double.

Mike MacFarlane homered for Kansas City, which lost for the eighth time in nine openers. The Royals scored twice in the ninth and had two runners on base before Smith relieved and retired Dave Henderson on a grounder.

Indians 4, Mariners 3: Randy Johnson, who pitched a no-hitter in 1990, lost his no-hit bid in the eighth inning, then Seattle lost the game in the 11th.

Sandy Alomar Jr. singled after a leadoff walk in the eighth for Cleveland's first hit. Manny Ramirez tied it at 2 with a two-run double.

Both teams scored in the 10th, and the Indians won in the 11th when Eddie Murray doubled, advanced on a fly and scored on a two-out single off Kevin King.

Yankees 5, Rangers 3: Jimmy Key ran his record to 5-0 in openers, pitching into the eighth inning as New York won at home.

Joe DiMaggio threw out the first ball, and then the Yankees hitters took over. Danny Tartabull and Mike Stanley homered and Wade Boggs had four singles.

Key held Texas to five hits before doubles by Will Clark and David Hulse finished him. Key became the first Yankee pitcher to win consecutive opening-day starts since Mel Stottlemyre won three straight in 1967-69.

Red Sox 9, Tigers 8: Oils Nixon, signed by Boston to add some speed, scored on a passed ball in the eighth inning to beat Detroit at Fenway Park.

The Red Sox won despite Roger Clemens giving up eight runs in 4 1/3 innings. Clemens broke Cy Young's team record with his seventh opening-day start, but could not hold the Tigers in his first game since the worst season of his career.

Boston rallied for three runs in the eighth against Joser Storm Davis. Nixon drew a two-out walk, loading the bases, and Billy Hatcher hit a two-run double that tied it at 8. With a 2-0 count, a high pitch went off catcher Mickey Tettleton's glove, allowing Nixon to score.

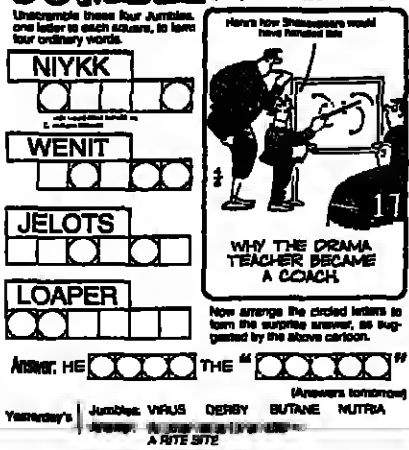
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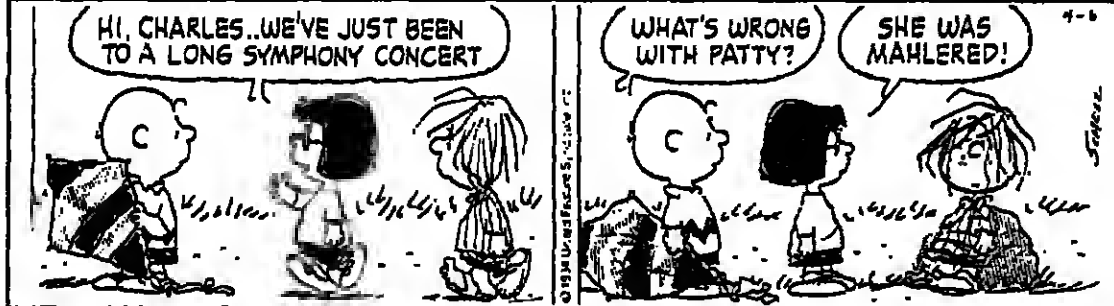
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JUNBLE

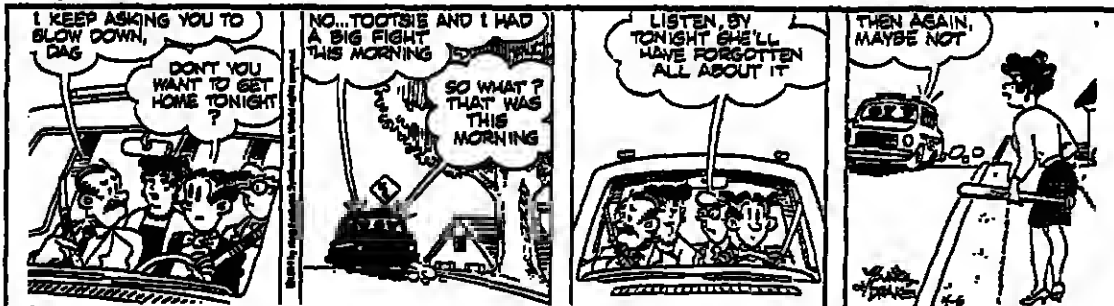


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